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OBSERVATIONS
ON THE USE OF
VAPOUR, TEPID, AND OTHER *N^o 401*
BATHS;

SHEWING, IN WHAT CASES THEY MAY BE USED WITH ADVANTAGE;
AND
WHERE RECOURSE TO THEM MAY BE ATTENDED WITH DANGER;

ALSO,
REMARKS ON THE DISEASES,
TO WHICH THEY SUPPLY THE MOST EFFECTUAL REMEDY;

THE WHOLE BEING ILLUSTRATED WITH
A SERIES OF CASES,
EQUALLY INTERESTING AND EXTRAORDINARY;

IN WHICH
THE UTILITY OF BATHING
IS SO DEVELOPED,
AS TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO THE MEANEST UNDERSTANDING, UNDER WHAT CIR-
CUMSTANCES THAT FAVOURITE RECREATION MAY BE ENJOYED WITH
SAFETY AND BENEFIT.

BY THE
PROPRIETOR OF THE TURKISH VAPOUR BATH,
5, DOWNING STREET.

London:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR,
BY G. HAYDEN, BRIDGES STREET, COVENT GARDEN; AND MAY BE HAD
AT THE INSTITUTION, IN DOWNING STREET.

1814.

PRICE,—THREE SHILLINGS.

explanatory of the design, and illustrative of the execution of this work. In candour she is bound to state, that the cures recounted in the early part of the work, were performed before she became the proprietor of the Downing-street Establishment. They are, however, not less authentic than those which follow, and which have all, under the blessing of Providence, been performed by herself aided by proper assistants, acting under her immediate directions.

It will be observed that many of the names are not given at full length. Those indicated by dashes, and initials, are for the most part, those of persons who paid the Establishment for the cures performed on them, and who had an objection to their names being given to the world in a publication like this, though willing, (and indeed in some instances desirous), of their being used for the purpose of private reference, that others might share with them the benefits of the institution. The names given at full length are those of persons in indigent circumstances, who, having been admitted into the Dispensary, were attended gratis.

From the individuals just alluded to, it is necessary to distinguish two persons, whose names are given at full length, Captain M'Arthur, of the 64th regiment, and Mrs. G. *They* came to the Establishment, avowing an intention to pay. If they subsequently found reason for departing from their original intention, whatever the writer's *own feelings* may have been, she will not wound *theirs*, by classing them with *honest objects of charity*.

For the many inaccuracies which the critic will find in this work, the Author has a very short apology to offer. Pursuits widely different from those of literature have occupied her through life. Further explanation she trusts will be thought unnecessary, and it is her hope that truths of no common importance to humanity, will not be undervalued because they do not appear in the splendid garb which a proficient in elegant literature would supply.

ON THE

MEDICATED VAPOUR BATH,

ITS

USES AND EFFECTS.

IN an enlightened and liberal age, like the present, it is only necessary to have for a basis the ability and intention of conducing to the *public good*, to enable any member of the community, however humble their sphere, to raise an edifice upon almost any scale.

It nevertheless cannot be denied, that many a spark of latent merit and ingenuity has been destined to expire unseen and unobserved, which, if aided by the timely patronage of some fostering hand, might have been raised into a flame of brilliancy and splendour.

When the chief end and object of a discovery is the benefit of our fellow beings, it is more and more the duty of every philanthropic mind to contribute to the success of it:

Impressed with these principles, and actuated by these motives, it is the Author's aim to awaken in the public mind something like a conception of the advantages derivable from the MEDICATED VAPOUR BATH to invalids of almost every affection.

In order that the Public may partake of the practical benefits here alluded to, she has, at considerable pains and expence, aided also by the first professional assistance, established a commodious house in DOWNING STREET, fitted it up in an appropriate manner, and adapted it to the purposes of Medicated Vapour Bathing, in a style surpassing any thing of the kind ever practised in this country.

Among the numerous inventions and improvements with which this great Metropolis abounds, it has somewhat astonished the Author, that no attempt has preceded her's to mature and perfect a *Medicated Vapour Bath*, which should afford at once a delectable and luxurious treat to the healthy, and a salutary benefit to the afflicted.

The Author is sensibly aware that, in the promulgation of her doctrines, she will have to encounter a phalanx of opposition; but that it will spring from a body of gentlemen whose interests might materially suffer from the general adoption of them.

It is almost unnecessary to say that it is from the Gentlemen of the Faculty that so much is to be apprehended ; inasmuch as any innovation upon their practice is considered a crime, for which the presumptuous offender cannot expect any pardon.

The Author, however, is not to be deterred from her object by any opposition, be it never so formidable, as she has already proved the sanative effects of the Medicated Vapour Bath to her own entire satisfaction ; and can adduce a variety of the most respectable living testimonies in support of her statements.

It was remarked some years ago, by an eminent Physician, that, “ in England, artificial baths of
“ all degrees of heat—vapourous and dry baths—
“ fumigations and different sorts of frictions—
“ were not yet encouraged as they ought to be ;
“ especially as they have been recommended by
“ all regular professors of physic, for being wou-
“ derfully beneficial in all internal and external
“ maladies.”

By another it has been asserted and lamented, that “ England contains not one artificial bath
“ of any real worth, notwithstanding such baths
“ are universally acknowledged among the car-
“ dinal remedies.”—The reason why these baths have not been introduced into England was assigned by Dr. LANGRISH to be “ a fear of censure

“ from the rage and tumult of those who are too
 “ lazy to make observations, and too proud to
 “ admit of any person knowing more than them-
 “ selves ; though, at the same time, all physicians
 “ are convinced that there is nothing to contra-
 “ dict the use of them, and hardly a distemper to
 “ which they may not be adapted.”

While quoting the different authorities upon this subject, it may not be amiss to present to the public the opinions of Dr. LUCAS, who, in confirmation of the benefits of the Vapour Bath, says,
 “ that the basis and benefit of bathing and fumi-
 “ gating consists in impregnating the water and
 “ its effluvia with such plants and herbs as the
 “ disorder may require, and in regulating the
 “ heat thereof by that of the vital system and
 “ other circumstances.”

So much for modern evidence:—now let us see what the ancients say upon the utility and virtues of *artificial baths*:—PLINY the elder saith that, “ for six hundred years before his
 “ time, *other* medicinal aids were hardly known
 “ at Rome.”

A medical writer of our own times, a man of great celebrity and research, so sensible of the benefits accruing from the practice of which we are now treating, says, that “ while artificial
 “ baths and stoves were continued by the Greeks
 “ and Romans, mineral waters were seldom men-

“ tioned, or quack nostrums used ; and it is from
 “ the want of them *now*, that people are driven to
 “ the necessity of bathing in natural hot springs,
 “ when, if *Nature performs the cure*, the Doctor
 “ obtains the credit.”

To these testimonies may be added that of FABRICIUS, who informs us, “ that the ambition
 “ of the Romans appeared in nothing more than
 “ in their baths and stoves ; and to recover and
 “ maintain public health, that they had medica-
 “ ted hot, tepid, and cold baths, and vaporous
 “ and dry stoves, built with all conveniences for
 “ the bathers, arbitrators, and assistants.”

Having proceeded thus far in the collection of evidences and opinions as to the salutary influence of the Bath, it becomes necessary to add some observations upon *Friction*.—This may be said to form an important branch of the Medical Art, especially *while and immediately after the vapour baths*, and the moist and dry fumigations *are and have been* skilfully applied. At the DOWNING STREET Establishment great attention is paid as to *whom* it should be prescribed, and whether *universally*, or *merely to the parts affected*—*when and to whom* it ought to be performed, briskly, or slowly—with or without force. Finally, *when, how, and to whom*, the Frictions must be applied with *linen*, with *flannel*, or with *the naked hand*, (but never with a brush,) so as to answer the sa-

lutary intentions, either to expel, repel, dissolve, deterge, heal, relax, or strengthen ; to supply the wants of nature through the mouths of the absorbent vessels ; and to regulate the circulatory, secretory, and excretory functions, which form the grand basis of health.

Frictions, used with this knowledge, act as the grand auxiliary of medicated baths and fumigations in purifying the whole ambit of the skin ; in deterging and healing the deformities of its stamina ; in uniting the divided capillary vessels ; in opening, dislodging, and dispersing the most stubborn internal and external obstructions and tumours ; in triturating the offensive, gross, and viscous particles formed in the blood and lymph ; in attracting them from all the internal parts of the body to its surface ; in expeling them easily, pleasantly, and safely through the secretory and excretory channels, and, at the same time, introducing, by the absorbent vessels, whatever may be wanted universally, to any internal or external part of the body, of a balsamic, emollient, astringent, or other medicinal substance.

Among the many who may be justly styled the Fathers of Physic, HIPPOCRATES says “ *Frictions*
 “ mollify the rigid, or brace up the relaxed, nerves
 “ and fibres ; nourish or attenuate the solids, dis-
 “ sipate tumid obstructions, and strengthen the
 “ debility of disordered parts ; thus reducing to

“ a just consistency the many plethoric incum-
 “ brances of the animal system, and giving to
 “ feeble nature that due degree of exercise, and
 “ nutrimental relief, which a state so much impo-
 “ verished can safely bear.”

As it is the primary object of the Author to instruct the uninformed, she thinks *brevity* the best means to that end ; while, on the contrary, the mind might be confused by copiousness or redundancy. She will now, therefore, pass from *generals* to *specifics*, and point out such cases as may safely calculate upon relief by the use of the Medicated Vapour Bath ; at the same time accompany them with some observations as to causes and symptoms : and first

OF
 THE SCURVY,
 AND OF THE
 DISEASES ORIGINATING THEREFROM ;
 AS WELL AS FROM THE
 MODERN PRACTICE OF TREATING IT.

WILLIS, with singular truth and energy, observes of the Scurvy, that “ it is not a *single* “ complaint, but a legion of distempers ;” and BOERHAAVE, and all other learned authors, after

pronouncing it the seed and root of almost every other malady, define it to be a disease proceeding chiefly from a defect in the concoctive faculties, as well as in the circulatory, secretory, and excretory functions, and from a consequent retention in the body of acrid, saline, and viscous humours, which ought to have been expelled through their proper channels.

If, in order to elucidate this general principle, we minutely investigate whatsoever is taken into the body, enquire how it is digested, and trace it through the subsequent stages of circulation, till it is, or ought to be, expelled through the passages provided for it by Nature, we shall discover by what means it becomes concocted, and why it is that, from the many impediments to which the discharges thereof through the excretory channels are liable, the basis being formed of the scurvy, a foundation is also laid for a multitude of other distempers.

The first alteration in what we have received as food is produced in the stomach and intestines, whose office it is to make the chyle, that is, to comminute and digest the materials destined to nourish the body, till they are rendered fine enough to be admitted into the blood, through the lacteal vessels. From anatomy we learn, that these are long and slender pipes, which arise from all the parts of the small guts, whose coats are so thin

as to be indiscernable in a dead body to the naked eye; and that the mouths of those tubes which open into the cavity of the intestines, whence they receive the chyle, are so minute as to be invisible even with the help of the best microscope. —How exquisitely fine, then, must that aliment be ground, which is to pass through vessels, whose size, in order to prevent the admission of any thing that may interrupt the circulation of the blood, is smaller than that of the smallest arteries in the body! And with what consummate wisdom must these grand organs of digestion be formed, when anatomists have proved to a demonstration, that the actual powers of the stomach, with the assistance of those of the diaphragm, and of the muscles of the belly, which likewise contribute to digestion, are equal to the pressure of two hundred and fifty thousand seven hundred and thirty-four pounds weight! —Though the continual motion of such a force upon the contents of the stomach might be thought sufficient, in healthy and strong constitutions, to grind all our aliment fine enough to pass through the lacteal vessels, yet some thereof, being too gross to be thus prepared, obtains to itself a passage out of the body by stool. The *stronger* the digestion is, therefore, the *greater* quantity of our food is sent forward into the blood: and the *weaker* it is, the *more* thereof is supplied to the matter of excrement.

The aliment, after it has been thus prepared by the *first concoction*, so as to be either sent into the blood, or detached out of the body by stool, undergoes another alteration in the heart and arteries ; one of whose offices it is to render what is in the blood, and in the other fluids, fine enough to be still farther separated in the minutest passages, for the various purposes of life. Though the force of the heart is not less astonishing than the power of the stomach, yet such is the nature of our aliment, that even after it has reached the blood, some of its particles will again unite ; nor will all of them be dissolved fine enough by the heart and arteries for the purposes intended. Hence it is, that being strained off by the kidnies, they are discharged out of the body by urine ; and it follows in the present stage of digestion, as it did in the former, that the *stronger* the concoctive faculty is in the heart and arteries, the *greater quantity* is forwarded into the minuter passages, and the *weaker* it is, the *more* is evacuated by *urine*, as before, from the same cause, it had been by *stool*.

We come now to the *third* and *last* concoction, which is performed by the fibres, and by those minute threads or filaments, of which the solids of the whole body are formed. With the assistance of his microscope, LEWENHOECK tells us, he found these to be composed of many hundreds of fibrils,

bound together by a spiral one, and so very small, that six hundred of them did not exceed the circumference of a hair of the head. These fibres have various uses in the animal machine; but, as QUINCY observes, the express purpose of many of them is, to give a proper power to all the glands, for the separation of the several fluids from the blood. In this concoction, the force or elasticity of the fibres is, indeed, the principal agent in digesting the fluids separated from the blood, by their vibrations, and by the influence of exercise, till, being fine enough to pass all the minutest passages for the several purposes of life, they *escape through the pores by sweat, or by insensible perspiration*. Hence it follows, as in the first and second concoction, that the *stronger* the natural force of the fibres is, and the *more* their motions are assisted by exercise, the *greater quantities* of this matter will transpire through the skin in an *insensible steam*; that, on the contrary, the *weaker* is their force, and the *less* their assistance from action, the *less* of this perspirable matter will pass through the pores. The evident conclusion, therefore, is, that when the fibres are, from whatever cause, weak, or deprived of the exercise requisite to assist their motions, either a great deal more of the perspirable matter will remain to be taken back by the refluent blood, and discharged by the opener channels, than would be otherwise, or else,

clogging the habit with offensive particles, it will lay a foundation for pains, tumours, and a long series of other miserable complaints, which will be enumerated in the sequel.

In accounting for the surprizing discharge by *insensible* perspiration, which greatly exceeds in quantity all the *sensible* evacuations together, and is also the most beneficial of them all, we shall find the discoveries which LEWENHOECK made with his glasses to be of considerable help. This accurate observer not only discovered the texture of the skin to be scaly, but computed, that in the compass of one cuticular scale there may be five hundred excretory channels, and that a grain of sand will cover one hundred and twenty-five thousand orifices through which we perspire daily.

It is to be remarked, however, as explained by QUINCY and others, that by the *pores* are to be understood not those alone of the outward skin, but of the internal glands also; as of the intestines, and other entrails, particularly the lungs, of the parts about the mouth, and of the common coverings of all the muscles. So kind, too, hath the parent of Nature been in the frame of the human body, that if, from any external cause, this necessary evacuation is hindered in *any one* part, in a *healthy state*, it is always increased in another, and discharged by explosions of wind through the opener passages; and indeed, were it otherwise, by

its stay in the blood and juices, there would be produced such alterations as could not easily be remedied by simple evacuation.

I must farther observe, that it is absolutely necessary to distinguish between perspiration and sweat, *which are often confounded by people to their prejudice*; as the one preserves health, and the other, unless to give relief from a greater evil, is injurious to it. In fact, the matter of perspiration, and the matter of sweat, are not less different than their effects. We have seen that, what perspires *insensibly* is only such matter as, after a long course of circulations through all the fluids, is divested of every thing that can be of farther use to any part of the body, and so finely dissolved as to pass away without any loss or injury. The matter of *sweat*, on the contrary, being of a thicker consistence, and supplied more immediately from the blood, not only robs the body of a great deal of nourishment, but relaxes the fibres so much, that their elasticity, upon which the last concoction and insensible perspiration essentially depend, is in a great measure destroyed.

From the above short view of the several concoctions and secretions, circulations and excretions, which our aliment undergoes, the conclusion (and daily observation confirms the truth of it) is, that the disorders of the *first* concoction, *merely as such*, do not go beyond the stomach and

intestines, and lie so near the immediate reach of medicine as to admit of *some* certainty of cure; that those of the *second*, being more remote, require greater art and application to be remedied, yet, beside the assistance of medicine, will admit of great influence from motion, and from a concussion of all the parts of the body; but that in the *last* stage of circulation through all the minuter vessels and passages (in which everything we have taken is liable to be altered by so many accidents before its operations are performed, and its course is finished) the *greatest skill* is insufficient to send a medicine with *tolerable* certainty of success, and the only *effectual remedy* is to be obtained from *air, exercise, and arbitrarily medicated and heated water and vapour baths, fumigations and frictions*. By means of such baths, &c. the volatile steams of the different mineral and vegetable ingredients employed, being with ease attracted by the absorbent vessels (which are diffused over the surface of the skin, and which, as all anatomists allow, are still finer than the perspiratory ducts) are conveyed thence into the lacteals, where, from their peculiar smallness, nothing *can* be admitted but in the form of a subtil fluid, or vapour.

In proof of what I have above represented, and of the total *inutility*, to say nothing *worse*, of medicinal substances taken inwardly, compared with the undeniably-happy effects which flow from the

introduction of the penetrative effluvia thereof into the mass of the blood through the said absorbent vessels, and from the expulsion of the inadhesive peccant matter through the secretory tubes, by means of my treatment, I submit to the judgment of my candid readers the following facts, the result of experiments made by the ingenious MORGAN.—“Sulphur,” says he, “or antimony, or cinnabar, or any other calx, whether mineral or metalline, when viewed through a microscope, after it has been reduced into the finest and most impalpable powder, appears many thousand times larger than the blood-globules, which globules are, nevertheless, vastly larger than the orifices of the lacteal strainers, and therefore cannot pass them without some farther division, separation, or comminution. Let any of these pulverised substances be put into boiling water in the closest coction for any time, and then the particles, on being separated, will be found little, if at all, broken or diminished by the power of the boiling water. The least of them, on the contrary, will appear many thousand times larger than the blood-globules, and still more so in proportion to any that can pass through the lymphatic circulatories. What has been said of sulphur, &c. holds good with respect to calcined shells, stones, bones, and other such

“trumpery.* Though this truth is generally
 “established, and well known to every philoso-
 “pher, physician, and chymist, yet we still see the
 “materia medica loaded with medicines equally
 “indissolvable and indigestible, and with an unac-
 “countable jumble of nauseous, sickening, and
 “putrefactive drugs; which, prescribed as they
 “daily are in practice, under the notion too of
 “being SPECIFICS, *cannot make their way into the*
 “*blood but by a MIRACLE, and which would do in-*
 “*finite mischief, if by any unaccountable means they*
 “*COULD get thither*, from their lying on the sto-
 “mach, or on any part of the viscera, as the
 “patient may happen to be more or less inclined
 “to this or that disorder.”

I must here observe, that none of the preparations of steel being
 any thing more than the rust of iron, I have known several young
 ladies discharge pills of this metal, as well as of cinnabar by stool,
 in the very state in which they had swallowed them; and as for
 the latter, though I might give a variety of instances in which it
 had remained many months undissolved and undigested in the sto-
 mach and intestines, and produced the most lamentable effects, I
 shall only add at present, that it is not above a twelvemonth since
 Mr. G. an eminent merchant in the city, after having been under a
 course of bark for above a year, in all which time he had undergone
 unutterable pain and misery, came to my house, where, at the end
 of two weeks, through the salutary effects of my operations, he
 discharged—dreadful to tell, and hardly credible but to those who
 saw it!—*at one stool*, thirteen balls of *genuine bark*, each nearly of
 the size of a walnut, and hard as iron. Of his happy deliverance
 on this occasion, Mr. G. is a *grateful* witness. Proofs will also be
 given of the pernicious effects of *calcined shells*, called *testaceous*
powders, and of other indissolvable and indigestible substances,
 shamefully employed for *medicinal purposes*, even by many of the
 most celebrated of our modern practitioners.

But to proceed,—In enquiring into the origin of the Scurvy, we find, from the writings of the most learned English physicians, that this dreadful disorder was in ancient times almost unknown to the *southern inhabitants* of this country, though it now seems to be not less epidemical with *them* than with the *northern* ones. It has been observed, that this destructive evil reigns, both in root and branch, more despotically in England than in any other country. Evident as the effect is, it cannot but be attributed chiefly to the inconstancy of the climate, the moisture and saline quality of the air, the too frequent custom of bathing in the sea, of swallowing the above-mentioned and other indissolvable medicines, as well as strong cathartics, diuretics, diaphoretics, narcotics, and volatile and spirituous cordials. To these may be added the abuse of mercury, and of the cold bath, the habitual practice of living on animal food, not only fresh but salted, and abounding in gravy, from its not being sufficiently cooked, of drinking also all sorts of liquors, imperfectly fermented, whether from malt, apples, or pears, and wines, too often poisonous, of domestic composition. It is by these and other means that, the blood and lymph becoming acrid, saline, and viscous, the females of England are so subject to the lamentable effects of the chlorosis, and both sexes to those of the hypochondria, two of the most general symptoms

of the scurvy; which Eugulinus distinguished into *fifty-nine* sorts, and Boerhave pronounced to be innumerable, “a scorbutic taint being,” as he truly observes, “the seed and root of almost all maladies.”

The above facts and conclusions have been acknowledged by the most eminent writers. Certain it is, however, that the mutability of the weather is one of the most general causes of the prevalence of scorbutic disorders in this island, because the saline and acrid particles of the air being then attracted by the absorbent vessels, the whole body is more or less affected by them; nor is there an Englishman who does not daily feel the truth of the observation made by Sydenham, Willis, Cheyne, Dover, Pitcairne, Langrish, Charlton, &c. namely, that some afternoons, both in summer and winter, both in autumn and spring, the weather, from being very cold, dry, and windy, in the morning, becomes insupportably close, and sometimes even sultry, in the afternoon. By these sudden changes the fibres are relaxed, the perspiratory humours are repelled, and, of consequence, the muscular and nervous system is impaired. In summer, according to the same writers, when the perspiration is great within doors, and on going abroad frequently immoderate, a cold wind, either dry or moist, will perhaps follow. The consequence is, that the perspirable matter, being stopped in the

secretory, excretory, and miliary glands, becomes offensive, and, instead of being *expelled* through the pores of the skin, is *repelled* into the mass of the blood and lymph; where, mixing with the nutritious juices, it will corrupt them, and more and more encreasing the viscous and bulky particles of the whole mass of the fluids, render it hardly possible for them to pass as usual even by urine. By this addition of gross, saline, and acrid juices, the benign, balsamic, and nutritive quality of the blood and lymph is unavoidably destroyed; and the stamina, the muscular and nervous fibres, nay, the natural state and action of the whole body, particularly of the viscera, are essentially injured.

Too often indeed, is the scurvy produced by causes, *seemingly trivial*, of our own creation; as, the bathing in a water or vapour bath hotter than the blood in a state of health—the drinking of cold liquors, when hot or fatigued—the lying in a damp bed—the sleeping in the open air—the standing in any moist place when sweating, and the feet are warmer than usual—the sitting down in the fields, after the sun is set—the suffering a wet shirt to dry on the body, &c.—Little as such circumstances are in general attended to, the most fatal effects flow from them; because, relaxing the spring of the fibres, they not only render the blood acrid, saline and viscous, and retard its circulation through the capillaries, and

through the sanguinous and lymphatic arteries, but clog and obstruct the secretory and excretory ducts in a greater or less degree, as the temperament, &c. may be predisposed.

But there are other causes still which have an unavoidable tendency to produce this cruel disorder, and which, like the last-mentioned ones, *originate with ourselves* ; I mean idleness, an inordinate indulgence of the passions, gluttony, and drunkenness. To prevent the bad effects of *idleness*, is surely in the power of every man ; and for this purpose he ought to fix on some easy, regular, and constant exercise in the open air, provided it be not moist or saline. In either case, the excretory ducts will then be obstructed ; and if these are once disordered, the stomach, the intestines, and all the other parts of the body suffering with them, a foundation is laid for an infinite number of dreadful distempers. *All the passions* have a prodigious influence upon the body, and, when carried to an excess, are fraught with the most melancholy consequences ; but *vexation* and *anger* are those which ought chiefly to be guarded against. Exclusive of the scurvy, inordinate passions naturally produce the hypocondria, a weakness in the stomach and bowels, relaxed nerves, arthritic pains, and fits of all kinds, *in men* ; convulsions, hysterics, ——— obstructions, and a number of other dangerous complaints, *in women*.

The mischiefs which the glutton and the drunkard bring, not only upon themselves, but upon their innocent posterity, are too obvious to escape the notice of the most superficial observer. Persons of this description weaken the concoctive faculties, become, through a stoppage of the perspiratory humours, sickly, slothful, indolent, and sometimes so puffed up, and bloated, that the least trifle shall carry them off. In a word, they live *miserably*, and die *prematurely*.

Having sufficiently elucidated the *nature*, the *origin*, and the *causes*, of this disorder, some of its many complicated symptoms must next be noticed:

DISEASES

DERIVED FROM

THE SCURVY,

AND FROM THE

MODERN PRACTICE OF TREATING IT.

THE symptoms of this cruel malady are not more different in their appearances, than they are alarming in their consequences. The Scurvy, as I have already observed, produces in men the hypochondria, and in women the chlorosis, with all their dire effects. In both sexes, it is often accompanied also with a defluxion of phlegm, costiveness, loose-

ness, foetid vapours, flatulences, crudities, and other disorders in the stomach and viscera ; with quartan agues, imposthumes in the mesentery, schirrous tumours, ulcers, and cancers ; with head-achs, and pains in different parts of the body, both fixed and wandering ; with a vomiting of blood, and an urine now thick, now thin ; with a deafness, noise in the ears, dimness of sight, shortness of breath, and general numbness ; with convulsions, hysterics, and frightful dreams ; with the jaundice, the colic, and bilious and cachectic complaints in general ; with the gout, rheumatism, gravel, and stone ; with coughs, cold shiverings, and fevers ; with pains in the joints, kernels, nodosities, and eruptions of various sorts on the skin ; with nervous tremours, partial and universal weaknesses, palsies, dropsies, disorders in the urinary passages and uterus, and a long series of other complaints ; the principal of which, with accounts of extraordinary cures of them performed by my treatment, will appear in the sequel.

Previously, however, it behoves me to notice the mistaken practices which *too many* of the faculty adopt in the treatment of the disease before us.

First, by the abuse of their *favourite* MERCURY, which is not less fatal in the *scurvy*, than it has been *proved* to be in the ———— ;

Secondly, by that of sending their patients *to bathe in the sea*;

Thirdly, by that of sending them *to bathe in the springs at BATH*; and

Fourthly, by that of *plunging them into the COLD BATH*.

In apology for the calamities they have brought, and daily bring, on mankind by the *former*, they will not, it is presumed, deny, that Boerhaave hath demonstrated, what their own experience cannot but have confirmed to them, namely, that “the medicinal virtues of MERCURY are owing to its great specific gravity, and the particular smallness and configuration of its parts; by which it *dissolves the texture of the blood and juices*, and so suddenly brings on that degree of *putrefaction* of the humours, which we find in a *salivation*; for by thus breaking the texture of the fluids, and *sometimes of the solids likewise*, it so attenuates and resolves them, as to make them *fætid*.”—If they have at all studied, they must also, however reluctantly, acknowledge with Lind, that “those who have undergone a *SALIVATION* are of all others the most subject to the SCURVY;” and with Leake, that “every degree of *putrefaction* is followed with a proportional degree of *resolution in the fluids*, and of *relaxation and decay in the solids*, though ever so insensible; that as the blood is tho-

“roughly melted down, and the solid fibres are
 “over-strained and wasted by a salivation, it may
 “be looked upon as a cause powerfully disposing
 “the patient to the SCURVY; that it evidently tends
 “to promote the same process as that of putre-
 “faction itself, and may therefore be deemed a
 “substantial reason, not only why the SCURVY so
 “often occurs after a SALIVATION, but also why
 “the smallest portions of mercury are so extremely
 “pernicious in this disease; that in such cases,
 “the mercury will not only farther break down
 “the texture of the blood, already so much de-
 “stroyed, but will also exalt that degree of putre-
 “faction, which before existed in it from the
 “scorbutic cause.”

With respect to the second erroneous practice
 above mentioned, namely, sea-bathing, the faculty
 are by no means less excusable, because they know,
 that the scurvy is nothing but a saline, acrid, and
 viscous humour in the blood and lymph; that the
 sea air is constantly moist; that moist air makes
 the blood viscid, and a saline air inflames it; from
 which causes proceed broken capillaries, and all
 the dreadful symptoms of the scurvy—because
 they know, that all the humours of the human
 body are apparently saline, and that if a man of
 a scorbutic temperament bathes in salt water, and
 breathes the sea-air, the saline particles will be
 attracted by the absorbent vessels into the fluids,

there dissolve, and dispose the body to putrefaction—*because they know*, that salt acts only when it is dissolved, and then becomes itself a very powerful dissolvent, and that all chymists agree, that no spirit or salt whatever, whether acid or alkaline, affects gold, unless it has in it a mixture of common or sea-salt, which makes many compositions so powerful, active, corrosive and pernicious to animal bodies—*because they know*, that it appears from Boerhaave's chymical history of putrefaction, that “ salt being taken into the
 “ blood, and mixed with the juices, if these begin
 “ to *putrify*, they are immediately *thrown off* (as
 “ appears by the sharpness and fœtid scent of the
 “ urine, sweat, fœces, &c.) or, if *retained*, excite
 “ grievous distempers, which must of necessity
 “ soon terminate in death”—*because they know*, that the same author, in his process upon animals, remarks, that “ a solution of sea-salt in
 “ water, though it creates no change of colour in
 “ the serum of the blood, when mixed with it,
 “ *dissolves its texture*—*because they know*, that Sir John Pringle also says, “ sea-salt is so great
 “ a hastener of *putrefaction*, that he still found,
 “ by repeated experiments, two drachms of fresh
 “ beef with five, ten, or fifteen grains of sea-salt,
 “ and two ounces of water, *putrefied sooner* than
 “ the same quantity of flesh infused with water
 “ only.”—Is not the practice of bathing in

the sea, therefore, equally pernicious to persons who labour under a *scorbutic*, as to those who labour under a *venereal taint*?—With equal safety, indeed, might such patients swallow poison.

The *third* error of the faculty is, the practice, so *fashionable* for many years past, of sending sick people *promiscuously* to bathe in the springs of Bath, without paying the smallest attention to the differences of disorders and constitutions, or, indeed, to any *other* differences, however important, though many of these *may*, and *actually do*, render such waters a *curse*, instead of a *blessing* to mankind.

As it has been proved by Short, and by numbers of other learned physicians and philosophers, that in a healthy state the vital heat of the human frame does not exceed seventy-six degrees, and in a high fever is only eighty degrees, so it clearly follows, that if a person in health should bathe in the king's bath, which is seven degrees hotter than the blood of a person in a high fever, effects highly injurious and alarming must be produced, and still more so if he should bathe in the hot spring, which is at ninety degrees of heat*.—If persons

* The same objections which are made to the springs of Bath are applicable to those of Buxton, though in an inferior degree. It has, indeed, been experimentally shown by JONES, SHORT, and others, that “the latter are not above a fourth part of the heat

of even the strongest and healthiest constitutions must suffer by bathing in such hot springs, what dreadful consequences will not ensue to such as are afflicted with plethoric, feverish, hectic, consumptive, asthmatic, paralytic, arthritic, scorbutic, or venereal complaints; especially when it is considered, that, from experiments made by LOWTHORP and others, their qualities are found to be such, that “some of the springs of Bath will eat out a ring of iron in seven years; that the cross-bath hath been observed to eat silver exceedingly; and that, even in a week’s time, a shilling hath been so eaten by it, that it might be wound about the finger?”—What punishment, then, do not those of the faculty deserve, who, after having for *months* and *years* harassed and tormented their patients afflicted with the above complaints, and reduced them to almost the last stage of their existence, can so far stifle the dictates of conscience, and suppress the feelings of humanity, as to persevere in sending them to Bath, there to terminate their wretched days, without the most

“of the former; Buxton being like to a quart of boiling water mixed with a gallon of cold water; and Bath to a gallon of boiling water with a quart of cold water; whence,” they conclude, “the waters of Buxton do not bring on *HALF SO MANY* grievous accidents as those of Bath.”—Of those “grievous accidents,” as well as of the *inconveniences* to which the bathers in the springs of Buxton are exposed, I shall speak more at large in a future treatise.

distant prospect of obtaining a cure, when *they know*, from numberless instances, that, by recommending them to me, their health may (through the blessing of God) be easily, safely, and effectually restored?

The authorities, I mean now to adduce, are those which follow:—SUTHERLAND says, “Men of all ranks, who resort to Bath to bathe for health, have long lamented, and continue to lament, the *danger* accruing therefrom.” This truth is confirmed by CHEYNE, who observes, “The reputation of bathing at Bath has fallen into a total disgrace from the *inconveniencies* and *sad accidents* attending it.”—ALLEN likewise observes, “Several *imperfect* leprosies have become *perfect* ones by the use of the Bath-waters;” and WILLIS even protests, he has himself known a great many not very bad of the *impetigo* or *inveterate scurvy*, who, by going to Bath to bathe, have returned *lepers*.” LEIGH, RANDAL, PIERCE, TURNER, and others, have shown, that “The Bath waters cannot be agreeable to an *inflammatory state of the blood*, nor to a constitution inclining to *hectic*.” They have farther declared, that, “the use of such waters, especially by bathing, is for the most part *absolutely forbidden* in the gout, in rheumatic, scorbutic, and *venereal* pains, in inordinate fluxes of the ——— in the piles, in inflammations of the

“ liver, in too great heat and obstruction of the
 “ kidneys, in consumption of the lungs, and in the
 “ tabes Anglica, viz. a penury or languor of spi-
 “ rit.”*—THICKNESSE affirms, “ No physician
 “ living will venture to assert, that, in spite of all
 “ their healing virtues, the springs of Bath have
 “ not been productive of *grievous* and *fatal* con-
 “ sequences. Whenever the vital heat is from *high*
 “ *living* or any other cause, too great, they are
 “ *very dangerous*. The heat, when it is too great,
 “ *closes the pores*, and often *totally obstructs the*
 “ *insensible perspiration*. He, who will examine
 “ the Bath waters, as they are given at the pump,
 “ will perceive a subtil acid arise from them,
 “ which soon *flies off*, which is always offensive
 “ to *weak lungs*, and which *corrodes all the iron-*
 “ *work it washes*; and it is observable, that *asth-*
 “ *matic persons* cannot live within the *effluvia*
 “ of the Bath waters.”—He likewise observes,
 “ Patients may as safely use them upon their own
 “ judgment, as upon any other man’s, unless their
 “ physicians can prove, that a sulphureous bath,

* The reader will perhaps say, if the Bath-waters are “ *abso-*
 “ *lutely forbidden*” for all the disorders above enumerated by men
 of ingenuity and learning—men, too, who employed the greatest
 part of their lives in investigating their properties—they are, on
 the same principles, *virtually* prohibited for almost every other ma-
 lady. The inference is just; and BENNET has proved the use of
 them improper, “ unless the patient is of a constitution uncom-
 “ monly cold and phlegmatic, and has been bruised or crippled.”

“ which opens the pores, and an acid one, which
 “ often closes them, is one and the same thing.
 “ This I can aver, that I went into the king’s bath
 “ in hopes of opening the pores, and in expectation
 “ of the natural consequences of a hot bath; but the
 “ reverse was the effect, the pores were thereby to-
 “ tally stopped, and for some days, I thought it
 “ would have DRIVEN ME MAD.”—LUCAS, who
 took so much pains to ascertain both the good and
 the bad properties of these fashionable springs, and
 who strongly discountenanced the use of them ac-
 cording to the present practice, feelingly declares,
 “ I shall be hard set, if I prescribe them to *deli-*
 “ *cate patients*, before I see them reduced to some
 “ decent and regular form whereby their *heat*,
 “ and every *other* circumstance, can be determined,
 “ and adjusted to the *safety* and *welfare* of the
 “ patient, and the *satisfaction* and *honour* of the
 “ physician. If ever I find myself obliged to re-
 “ commend them, *before* the wished-for *reforma-*
 “ *tion* be brought about, I shall feel no less *hor-*
 “ *ror*, than every *humane* physician now does,
 “ when he prescribes a medicine of *energy*, and
 “ knows not into what apothecary’s journeyman,
 “ apprentice, or servant’s hands it may fall in the
 “ absence of the master, while the patient’s *health*,
 “ and *life*, and the prescriber’s *reputation* are at
 “ stake.”

Such being, among many others, the mischie-

vous effects which follow the improper use of the springs of Bath (and it is a truth, which reflects little honour on the practitioners of the present day, that they are *still* often prescribed for all the above disorders without exception.) BENNET rationally accounts for them, so far at least as they proceed from the *natural* properties of the waters thus: “ *first*, because even a *moderate* degree of
 “ heat, not greater than that of health, will soon
 “ render the blood and lymph, the bile, urine, and
 “ secretory juices, highly saline, acrid, and alkaline; of which plain symptoms daily appear
 “ from immerging people in the Bath waters:—
 “ *secondly*, because the animal juices, being attenuated by the *immoderate* heat of those waters,
 “ and rendered more subtil than natural, are unfitted for nourishment:—*thirdly*, because the
 “ Bath-waters want a balsamic consistency:—
 “ *fourthly*, because they circulate with a greater
 “ velocity than is compatible with the stop necessary to nutrition.”

The absolute necessity of having the heat of medicated baths regulated by the constitution of the patient, his disorder, and vital fire (which last it must seldom, if ever, be suffered to exceed) has been enforced by numberless writers.—In describing, for example, the effects of heat upon diseased bodies, FLOYER, who was *himself* one of the most strenuous *partisans* of cold-bathing, observes,

“ A hot *fomentation* of the whole body, or of its
 “ parts, (and the same are the effects of *baths*)
 “ mollifies the skin, which is too hard, and relaxes
 “ that which is tense, because heat rarefies the
 “ humours contained in the vessels, and thereby
 “ mollifies them also. Heat, if *moderate*, increases
 “ the flesh, and recalls the colour; but, if *immo-*
 “ *derate*, it melts and diminishes the flesh, extenu-
 “ ates the whole body, and dissipates the nourish-
 “ ment and colour. When *moderate*, it likewise
 “ cures spasms, and eases the pains of cramps, and
 “ all pains of the eyes, ears, and such like. It
 “ helps the parts over-cooled, promotes suppura-
 “ tion, mitigates febrile rigours, distensions, con-
 “ vulsions, and heaviness of the head; helps the
 “ hardness of the limbs after inflammations or con-
 “ tractions; is proper for fractures, luxations,
 “ wounds of the head, bare bones, and ulcers which
 “ do not bleed; for all parts mortified or ulcerated
 “ by cold; for the eating *herpes*, or blackness in
 “ the gums, anus, and uterus.—Hot baths vio-
 “ lently rarefy the nutriment, and, by relaxing
 “ the skin, cause the plumping up of the habit of
 “ the body. *It is observed, indeed, by all nations,*
 “ *that a rational use of baths contributes much to*
 “ *the health of the people.*”

BAYNARD, his coadjutor, declares, “ The hot
 “ stoves and bagnios, in and about London, have
 “ been the destruction of many a man.”—This is,

indeed, a melancholy truth; but the reason is, that they are never medicated with the proper vegetable and mineral substances, regulated by the vital heat, or furnished with the requisite conveniences.—To frequent our *modern bagnios* is, indeed, a readier way to *contract* disorders than to *get rid of them*; and, at any rate, what can be expected from the vulgar and illiterate keepers of such places—people, who, seldom accustomed to any thing but scenes of vice, are in general better qualified to act as —, than as *directors of artificial baths*?—This it was which chiefly induced SUTHERLAND to affirm that, “All the baths in Europe *disgraced* the baths of England. The Romans,” adds this author, “prepared baths for recreation, cleanliness, and health. Imperial pride was in no instance so conspicuous as in the stately structure of baths. They were erected in every province that submitted to the Roman yoke. By the *rational* use of baths, the wise ancients *prevented* and *cured* diseases.

The fourth error committed by too many of the faculty, is that of precipitately plunging their patients into the *cold-bath*, without having previously taken the proper steps to remove the *cause*, whether — or scorbutic, of the disorders under which such patients labour.

From these acknowledged truths it is easy to perceive, that when a patient plunges into a *cold-*

bath, and comes out in about two or three minutes, the body has not time to attract a scruple of the water; that of consequence such water, whether pure or medicinal, instead of having the least tendency to sweeten acridities, or by any means to operate against either a ——— or a scorbutic taint, must, from the sudden shock given to the person jumping therein, cause an inward chilness, with a contraction of the cuticular membranes of the whole ambit of the body, and, repelling the morbid matter from thence, from the *membrana adiposa*, and from the *membrana propria musculorum*, to the center, injure the *viscera*, if not the *meninges* of the brain, or nerves of the head. The danger of being exposed to these alarming evils flows from the sudden and violent obstruction, as well as contraction of the secretory, excretory, and absorbent vessels; which effects are still more certain to follow immersions in the sea, the water being then heavier, and its weight greater, than it possibly can be in a common cold-bath.

As the effect of cold-bathing is attributed by all learned writers on the subject, not only to the chilness and constringing power of the water, but to its weight also, so it has been demonstrated, that if a person be immersed two feet, and the area of his skin be fifteen feet, he sustains a weight of water, added to that of the air, = 2280lb. For

2, the number of cubical feet of water, pressing upon a foot square of the skin + 76, the number of pounds in a cubical foot of water, is = 152; which + 15, the supposed number of square feet on the surface of the body, is = 2280lb. Troy.

From these facts it is farther evident, that the gravitation of the fluids, the pressure of the atmosphere, and its differences, with those of the water, and of the weights upon any given surface, come into calculation with as much ease as any question that can be stated in common arithmetic.

In order to expose, in colours, if possible, still more glaring, the dangerous effects of bathing in cold water indiscriminately, and *before* the morbid matter is dislodged from the body, as it is so often recommended in these days by the faculty, and falsely and wickedly extolled by them as the *grand panacea for all disorders*, I need only adduce the following passages from that celebrated *advocate* for the cold-bath, Sir JOHN FLOYER; leaving my candid and intelligent readers to determine whether, *from his own words*, the use of it ought not to be discountenanced, or at least persevered in with the *strictest caution*, even *after* the cause of the disease *has been removed*.

“*The cold-bath,*” says FLOYER, “*stops the evacuation of the humours, and closes the pores.*”
 “It likewise condenses the spirits more effectually
 “*than opiates and nitrous medicines.* It cannot

“ help any defluxions, such as the *asthma*; neither can it do any good where the *viscera* are decayed. Cold baths heat by stopping the pores, and keeping in the hot effluvia or aerial spirits.”

He adds, “ They directly produce a sense of coldness upon their first application to the skin, but by that coldness the *skin* is contracted, and the *humours* are compressed and stopped within the body, which produce heat and burning.”

On the authority of Hippocrates he observes, “ Excessive cold blackens inflammations by contracting the skin, it hinders perspiration, and the circulation of the blood through tumours; it very much compresses the air in our humours; causes feverish rigour, convulsions, and distensions; all which depend on the sense of chilness, which gives the shivering in the skin, and occasions its contraction. Its effects are also soon felt on the breast, stomach, and belly, because we use to keep those parts more warm than the rest.”—

From his own experience he adds, “ It contracts the skin like that of a goose, makes it very pale, hardens it, and congeals and compresses too much the nerves and spirits; it repels the humours into the flesh and nerves, and by shutting up the pores, hinders sweat; it makes the flesh shrink, and hinders its growth, because it drives the circulation inward; it hinders suppuration, by stopping the afflux of blood, and the rare-

“faction of the humours; it increases heaviness
 “of the head, is injurious to wounds thereof, as
 “also to fractures, luxations, mortified or ulce-
 “rated parts, the eating herpes, or blackness in the
 “gums, anus, or uterus, because such parts have
 “been used to be covered, and stops the afflux
 “of humours to them.”—He farther observes,
 “Cold air heats as well as cold water, and pro-
 “duces the same inconvenience in bodies disposed
 “to coughs and convulsions. They who have a
 “weak heat, and are much decayed, must not
 “venture on cold baths, nor they who are intem-
 “perate, and have eat or drank extraordinarily,
 “because the distribution and consumption of an
 “abundant chyle being stopped, it must occasion
 “fevers or defluxions. If the spirits be sunk by
 “looseness, vomiting, venery, watching, or any
 “other evacuation, we cannot well bear the cold-
 “bath; our spirits, being weak, will be overcome
 “by its chilness. In fits of the gout and epilepsy,
 “in inflammations of the lungs, in the beginning
 “of putrid fevers, in iliac passions, in the gripes,
 “and during any defluxions, cold baths are im-
 “proper; for they hinder expectoration, repel
 “pains, and promote the present defluxions, fluxes,
 “and pains. They affect the head, and move the
 “blood too much to stop hæmorrhages; which,
 “indeed, they rather encrease. The reason why
 “they are not good for the *tabid* is, because they

“ *hinder expectoration, and promote looseness.*
 “ They agree only with hot constitutions, and not
 “ with cold, nor in decayed, weak spirits, and
 “ very old persons, after exercise and great lassitude during great *inflammations affecting the*
 “ *inward parts, as in pleurisies, phthisics, colics,*
 “ *after great surfeits, full meals, nor in*
 “ *convulsions.*

To those very practitioners it was nevertheless, well known, that numbers of ladies and gentlemen of the most *emaciated bodies and of the most weak and relaxed fibres*, after having been reduced by THEIR *management* to almost the last gasp, had been restored to perfect health by MINE. From repeated proofs they were likewise *convinced* not only of the *delicious luxury* of my operations, but of the *peculiar ease, safety, and efficacy*, with which they open the obstructed pores, sweeten the acrid, saline, and viscous humours, free the muscular and nervous system from all offensive particles, whether *venereal or scorbutic*, regulate the circulatory, secretory, and excretory functions, establish the *equilibrium* of the fluids and vessels, and not only relieve patients from their complaints, but prevent the re-production of their calamities — calamities, too often brought on by repeated bleedings, by the swallowing so many saline draughts, and testaceous and astringent medicines; by the improper, because unseasonable, use of the

elixir of vitriol, and of a vegetable diet ; all which they *knew*, or *ought to have known*, tend to diminish the vital heat, and to repel into the mass of the blood and lymph, to throw upon the liver, lungs, stomach and intestines, the destructive humours, which ought to have been expelled out of the body through their proper channels, but which were thus made to produce disorders infinitely more grievous than those it was intended to remove.

After they have by this their *uniform*, because *profitable*, practice, exhausted the patience, destroyed the constitutions, and drained the purses, of the persons under their care, *then*, and *not till then*, do they *permit* them to come to me ; and, because even when thus circumstanced, Heaven hath generally blessed my endeavours in restoring them to health, the only return I have often experienced from my medical adversaries was, an increase of their enmity. *Hinc*, may I indeed add, *hinc illæ lachrymæ* on their parts ! for, alas ! had my operations been *less successful*, they would have had *more of their encouragement*, and fewer of their patients would have been sent to Bath and Bristol, to Portugal, France, and Italy, there to end their unhappy days, and thus screen from impending detection and reproach the ignorance and incapacity of the cruel authors of their misery.

Ever anxious to manifest the real utility of my plan, I proceed to observe, that from Hippo-

CRATES, GALEN, STATIUS, CELSUS, VITRUVIUS, ORIBASIUS, CICERO, PLINY, and others, we learn, that Rome, when at the height of her glory, contained 856 public baths, and *not one* hospital; that then few medicines were used, or methods employed to recover and preserve public health but by hot, tepid, and cold baths, of which last they frequently even took off the chill. Those baths were distinguished by the names of *calidarium*, *tepidarium*, and *frigidarium*. There were likewise vaporous and dry stoves, by some called *hypocausta*, by others, *laconia*, or *sudatia*.

I shall now make it appear from a few cases, selected from a multitude of similar ones, that the only safe, easy, and effectual method of removing that destructive malady the *scurvy*, with all its dreadful symptoms, consists in having a thorough knowledge of, and experience in, the various uses of my operations, but particularly my modes and means of preparing and applying arbitrarily-medicated and heated water-baths and pumps, vaporous and dry baths, moist and dry internal and external fumigations and dry frictions. In these, with the *occasional* addition of a few simple medicines consists the whole of my plan.

CASE I.

A gentleman, of a scorbutic temperament, at

the age of *twenty-five* caught a cold, by going abruptly, while he was in a sweat, from a hot ball-room into a moist and foggy air. *A shortness of breath* and *fever* ensuing, he took remedies which proved worse than the disorder; for they left behind them *a hard tumour*, and *so violent a contraction* and *pain* in the right knee, that he could not touch the ground with his foot, and had no rest, nor ease, night or day. Finding the *swelling*, *contraction*, and *pain* in his knee, with the *decay* of his *leg*, and *thigh* encreasing, though for *three years* he had received the advice and assistance of the most eminent of the faculty at Bath, Salisbury, Bristol, Exeter, and Sherborne, he came up to London, and put himself under the care of *two eminent surgeons*. These gentlemen, after having exerted their whole skill, gave him up as *incurable*. For *two years more* he alternately employed three of the most reputable surgeons in the city, who, among other things, ordered him to adhere to a milk and vegetable diet, but still to no purpose. Reduced to a *skeleton*, and in the utmost danger of *losing his life*, after having tried *every remedy* that could be devised he was brought to my house. His weakness and decay were such, that for the *first two weeks* he often fell in a fit from his chair to the ground, and was under the necessity of being fed like a child with a tea-spoon-ful of minced meat. Nevertheless, by the use of the

vapour baths, universal and partial moist and dry fumigations, and frictions, administered to him, he found *in a month* amazing benefit. By adhering to the same process *for three months* he gradually regained his appetite, rest, and strength; *the muscles and nerves of his decayed leg and thigh* resumed their proper *tension and elasticity*. He likewise daily felt the concretion and adhesion of the patella or knee-pan, and of the bones of his leg and thigh, give way. *In four months*, he was able to put his foot flat upon the ground; and his leg and thigh became rapidly replenished with flesh.

OBSERVATION.

It is not my intention to swell the present work by an unnecessary repetition of cases which have a manifest affinity with each other. The few I shall publish, however, having baffled the skill of the most eminent physicians and surgeons, will, I hope, be an inducement to the faculty in general, when they find the inefficacy of their own practice, not to consign the afflicted over to despair, but to recommend them to a trial of my practice. I mean not to rob them of their *fees*, so long as those fees may be received with *credit to themselves*, or with a prospect, however remote, of *advantage to their patients*. No man

should be pronounced *incurable* while the breath remains in the body; though it is actually an established rule with many practitioners, when *THEY can do nothing more for their patient, to say nothing more CAN be done for him.* The sentence is in itself so unkind, as not unoften to create a despondency, productive, *without any other cause*, of an untimely dissolution of the patient. Many, it is well known, have I been the happy instrument of restoring to life, and to the comforts of this world, who, without my salutary interposition, would long since have been numbered with the dead.

CASE II.

Captain M——, a gentleman recommended by Lord L——, aged *seventy*, desired me to pay him a visit. I found him of a constitution deeply tainted with the *scurvy*, and was told, that he had been frequently, through an irregular course of life, troubled with *pains, eruptions, and an unusual swelling*. These complaints had not only produced a fever, but defeated every medical effort, disabled him from moving in his bed, to which he was now constantly confined, and from retaining the least food, or medicinal substance in his stomach. When I was applied to, it was supposed he could not live over two days, and Lord L——, on my re-

presenting the impracticability of removing him, ordered the back of a coach to be cut off for the convenience of admitting his body, and the bed at full length. With immense trouble and difficulty he was in this manner conveyed to my house; where I immediately applied my properly-medicated and heated, moist and dry fumigations and frictions universally. His Lordship, and several other persons of quality, sent twice the same night to know if the captain was *living*. Calling to see him the next morning, they were amazed and confounded to find, that he was *not only living*, but had actually received *very sensible benefit* from being no more than *three times* fumigated. By a perseverance in this process, the captain being brought into a general perspiration, in *four days* the swelling ripened, and emitted a considerable discharge, by which he recovered *his rest, appetite, and spirits*. He was put into the arbitrarily-medicated and vapour baths; which, with the operations above-mentioned, produced so wonderful an effect upon him (by extirpating the *primary cause* of his complaints, to which his former medical attendants had never paid the smallest attention) that in about *ten weeks* he left my house perfectly recovered, and the next day set off with a party of pleasure into the country.

CASE III.

A gentleman of a weak constitution, of a *scorbutic habit*, and subject to colds at every change of weather, was for twelve years constantly afflicted with a *flying rheumatism*, and a *fixed tormenting pain in his stomach*. Though he had received the advice and assistance of his brother, a celebrated surgeon, and of several other *eminent gentlemen of the faculty*, and tried all the *bathing and water-drinking places*, he yet enjoyed not the smallest comfort, or prospect of relief. Hearing of the cures I had performed in almost every desperate malady, he determined to commit himself to my care; being told even by Dr. ———, that my process would do him no harm, if he received no good from it. By going through the usual operations adapted to his case, *in six weeks*, his complaints being entirely removed, he left me in perfect health, which he continues to enjoy.

CASE IV.

A very respectable gentleman, of an *hypochondriac and scorbutic constitution*, began, from the age of *forty-two*, to feel his nerves exceedingly affected, particularly *those of the head and stomach*, and to be subject to *horrid dreams, faint-*

ing fits and tremours. He was attended by Dr. ———, and an apothecary, *for ten years*; and his disorder still baffling their endeavours, he was then advised to plunge *into the cold bath head foremost.* On his *first* immersion, the crown of his head seemed to be struck with a large hammer; and upon coming out of the water he was *almost blind and stupid.* These complaints were followed with an intolerable pain in the forehead, and an oppression at the stomach; for which cephalics, emetics, blisters to his head, and at last a sinapism under his feet, which took away *the soles*, having been administered in vain, they sent him to Bath against the desire of his friends, who were anxious to have him *under my care.* He staid there *four months* under the direction of the faculty, and returned *worse* than he went. In despair of obtaining a cure from any other quarter, he came to my house; where, by going into my properly-medicated vapour-baths, and through my *universal moist and dry fumigations* the circulation and perspiration began gradually to encrease, and to be re-established, and in less than *twelve weeks*, he was, to his inexpressible joy, discharged in perfect health.

CASE V.

The master of a trading ship between London and Venice, suffered for *fourteen years* the severest

torments from a *scorbutic eruption*, accompanied with a discharge of thick white matter, especially from his legs, thighs, arms, and face. This disorder proceeded from his having in a raw, foggy night jumped out of bed, and run upon deck, while he was in a sweat, and his shirt quite wet. After a cough and head-ache, a *tertian ague* followed; nor was it till he had been freed thereof at the expiration of *eighteen months*, by the power of Jesuit's bark taken every four hours, that the *eruption* appeared. He had strictly observed the prescriptions of the ablest physicians of London, Bath, and Bristol, and even of Lisbon, Naples, and Padua; he had not only *bathed at all those places*, and frequently *in the sea*, but had rubbed his body hundreds of times with the flower of sulphur, mixed with *mercurial ointment*, as also with Barbadoes-tar. All hopes of obtaining relief from his complaints terminated in a melancholy disappointment; till, being convinced by his friends of the rational principles on which my operations are founded, and of the surprising cures I had been the happy instrument of performing by them, in almost every disorder incident to the human body, he came to my house; from whence, by going through the operations suited to his disorder, he was discharged in perfect health at the expiration of *eleven months*.

CASE VI.

An eminent merchant, whom I had cured of an *obstinate retention of urine, and pain in the kidneys*, brought to my house his friend Mr. M——, whose legs (swelled to a monstrous degree) had been affected for nineteen years with red and black tumours, and with putrid and corrosive ulcers, which constantly discharged a fœtid, ichorous humour, and were each surrounded with a hard callous. Mr. M—— informed me, that his complaints had baffled the skill of the first physicians and surgeons in London; that for the last *eight years* he had been hardly able to walk across his room, and could get no rest at night, his pains being then peculiarly violent; that the original cause of his melancholy state was a cold, and an ague-fever; to get rid of which he had taken three pounds of the bark, and to prevent a mortification in his leg upwards of twenty pounds more, besides being salivated three times. He immediately began a course of my operations, and by persevering in them for about *fifteen weeks* he was discharged in perfect health.

OF PARTICULAR

DISEASES

PRODUCED BY

THE SCURVY,

WHETHER SIMPLE, OR COMPLICATED WITH A
 ——— AFFECTION.

ALREADY it has been evinced, that the gravel and stone, the stranguria, the ischuria, and many other disorders in the kidneys, the bladder, and the urinary passage, proceed from either a ——— or a *scorbutic cause*, whether hereditary or acquired. Ever impelled by a humane wish to abolish the *vile though fashionable art of temporising* with the afflicted, where *effectual methods are unknown*, or, which is worse, where they are *known*, but for *selfish purposes disregarded*, I think it incumbent on me to reprobate in the strongest terms the practice, which has so long prevailed, of prescribing various medical compositions on the *pretence* of dissolving stones or gravel in the kidneys and bladder, and thereby of transfusing their solution through the urethra. In a particular manner it is my wish to explode those *fancied remedies* which are of a *lixivious* nature. These are in general nothing more than soap-ashes, and other simi-

lar *corrosive substances*, of which *caustics* are usually composed, From the slightest acquaintance with the animal economy; every physician *must know*, that the vellicating force of such ingredients is highly pernicious; and if he have a grain of honesty he will *acknowledge*, that by their previously mixing with the saliva, and passing through so many channels full of crude, indigested nutriment, and of various liquids; by their undergoing such a variety of distinct digestions and filtrations, and thus blending with a multitude of heterogeneous juices and mucus, before they can reach the kidneys and bladder, they must absolutely and *bona fide* have lost their *constituent qualities*.

Now it must be evident to a person of the humblest intellect, that if the stone and gravel could be dissolved, and their solution carried off through the urethra, *by any liquid whatever*, they must certainly have first severely irritated and injured the parts adjacent to their passage, destroyed the mucus and coats of the kidneys and ureters, and either relaxed or contracted the sphincter of the bladder. These being inexpressibly more tender and soluble than the softest species of calcareous substance formed within the human frame, the consequence must be (as I shall manifest more fully by facts, when I come to treat *particularly* of those cruel disorders) that *new*

calamities would be generated in such parts with ten-fold aggravation.

CASE I.

Of a stoppage of the urine, contained in a letter from Sir———

SIR,

According to your desire, in kindness to a friend, I write this to certify that I have been under the care of ——— about *four weeks*, and have found very great benefit by using medicated bath and vapour stove, and fumigations, as the stoppage was in the neck of the bladder. By them I now make water freely, with great ease, and think myself cured. I was before for *ten years* under the direction of several principal surgeons, and found no other benefit than merely palliative. I could neither eat nor sleep. I now do both agreeably. After having been four times in the bath and stove, and received the inward moist and dry fumigations, the carbuncle burst, and ran matter about two days. From that time the water came out plentifully, and met with no obstruction. I heartily wish that your friend may reap the same benefit, and indeed I do not doubt it.

I am, &c.

T——W——

OBSERVATION.

This gentleman, as he himself intimates, had been severely afflicted for *many years*. Though he spared no expence in procuring the assistance of men eminent in the profession, and distinguished for their *supposed* skill, he yet “*found no other benefit than merely palliative.*”—What a disgrace to the faculty, that in the course of “TEN YEARS *several principal surgeons*” could only *patch up* a disorder, which in a FEW WEEKS was afterwards RADICALLY CURED BY MY ATTENTION.

CASE II.

A DIABETES.

Mr. S.—B—, a merchant in London, of a delicate constitution and relaxed fibres, at the age of thirty-two, laboured for *nine years* under a diabetes, making six times more urine than the liquids he drank, and being able to retain it but a few minutes. His skin became dry as parchment, and he was moreover afflicted with a perpetual thirst and sickness at the stomach, with a total privation of appetite and sleep, and an universal decay of flesh and strength. He was attended, though to no purpose, by sundry *celebrated* physicians, who concluded his disorder to be the PALSY IN THE

BLADDER. After having experienced the inefficacy of medical prescriptions, and the danger of quack-nostrums, his legs and feet became swelled, and his body reduced to a mere skeleton. Though frequently desirous of putting himself under my care, from the recommendations of his sister, his uncle and several of his friends, who had witnessed a number of cures I had performed in similar and other stubborn diseases, and every hope of curing him had vanished, he was constantly diverted from adopting this measure by the faculty; who were pleased to tell him, that his complaints proceeded from an universal weakness, a debility in the kidneys, and relaxation in the neck of the bladder, and my process would certainly *kill him*. Convinced at last of the malice and falsehood of such reports, and determined to be no longer pestered with medicines equally nauseous and destructive, he was carried to my house; and by going through the operations proper for his disorder, in *nineteen weeks* he was restored from pain and misery to health and happiness.

OBSERVATION.

When a patient is recommended to a physician because he is *famous*,, he ought to say, “ But is he *honest*?” *Medical skill* is, indeed, of no moment, compared with *medical integrity*.

The next subject which claims our peculiar attention is

THE PALSY.

In treating of this symptom of the *SCURVY*, (for the *PALSY*, *strictly enquired into*, is nothing else) and of the *rational means* of curing it, we shall find authorities in favour of my practice equally cogent with those which have preceded.

HOFFMAN expressly says, “ In the *paralysis*, “ and in the *palsy in the bladder*, the most certain “ remedies are, temperate baths, fumigations, and “ frictions?”—What was the opinion on this subject of the illustrious BOERHAAVE?—Aware of the *fundamental cause* of paralytic complaints in general, he seldom mentions them without likewise enforcing the necessity of having recourse to the same salutary expedients.

In conscience can our modern practitioners *still* persevere in administering their *farragoes* of useless medicines for the palsy, when they are convinced of the truth of these testimonies, and when they likewise know, that BONTIUS, RONDELITUS, EMULLER, SENNERTUS, CÆSAR, CLANDINUS, FORTIS, HEISTER, QUINCY, SHAW, BURNET, ALLEN, BROOKE, LUCAS, and a long catalogue of other distinguished authors, both ancient and modern, have proved *arbitrarily-medicated vapour-baths*,

fumigations and frictions to be the only specific for paralytic as well as epileptic disorders, when all medicines have failed?

Before I dismiss the authorities in my favour, I must beg the attention of my readers to the following passages from RIVERIUS, which tend more and more to confirm the *peculiar merit* of my mode of practice.

In the first place, this writer observes, “I have
“ tried many remedies for the palsy, but could
“ find none more safe, easy, and efficacious, than
“ medicated baths, stoves, and fumigations. *By*
“ means of these nature is so effectually assisted,
“ that the disorder seems to consent to a speedy
“ removal without opposition.”

Secondly, he mentions “the lady of a noble-
“ man, who was seized with a complication of
“ disorders, under which having laboured for se-
“ ven years, she was attacked with a *confirmed*
“ palsy.—In this condition” says he, “I ordered
“ a bath to be prepared for her. After the bath,
“ I immediately applied an unction to the region
“ of the liver. Before she went to bed, I or-
“ dered her to be well washed with the like medi-
“ cated water for a considerable time. I likewise
“ ordered her to be *anointed* and *rubbed* morning
“ and evening; by which, and by a continuance
“ of the baths, she recovered her health to a mi-
“ racle.”

That the cures *thus* performed by RIVERIUS and others were *miraculous*, is farther manifest from the impossibility of their administering such baths with safety, or according to the vital fire of the patient, and the state of his disorder ; which renders it still more evident that, till these discoveries were known, no man had formed the most distant conception of the true method of preparing and applying vapour-baths and fumigations, of encreasing, or diminishing with the requisite facility, the heat of the volatile medicinal effluvia, and of adapting it to the natural heat of the body.

It is a fact too notorious to be contradicted, that by employing hot bricks, or water in bottles, (a practice likewise too frequent in these *pretendly* enlightened days, and *servilely copied* from the rude method handed down by the antients, while the art of healing was yet in its infancy,) the intention of promoting sweat cannot be answered, without inflaming the blood of the patient by an external dry heat greater than the vital : that by the power of such heat, the momentum of the circulation of the liquids in the large emunctories being encreased, the blood and lymph are forced into the capillary tubes, which they distend and weaken, rendering at the same time the fluids *serous*, and forcibly opening the dried and contracted perspiratory and sudatory tubes, without

having previously, and by gentle means, moistened and relaxed the rigid and compressed valves of the pores, and removed confined matter. Hence may be conceived the many bad consequences which follow; and the more so, when it is considered, that as the heat of the water or bricks decreases, the sweat must decrease also; that when the shirt and bed-linen are wetted by the urinaceous, inadhesive humours thus expelled, those very humours, re-attracted through the absorbent vessels, and rendered still more acrid, viscous, and corrosive, by having been exposed to the air, become again mixed with the peccant matter left in the body, naturally encrease the general corruption of the fluids, affect the noble parts, especially the viscera, and thus keep the patient lingering under various disorders—to cure which he swallows loads of medicines, calculated to augment, rather than diminish, their *primary cause*.

Some will, perhaps, say, “How comes it, that “**RIVERIUS**, and other physicians equally respectable performed so many wonderful cures not only “in palsies, but in many other desperate disorders, by modes and means so imperfect?”—My answer is, because, in imitation of the ancient fathers of the healing art, they were not only **PHYSICIANS** but **FRIENDS** to the afflicted; because, as such, distinguished for their diligence, as well as benevolence, by a patient attendance upon them,

they accurately observed all the phenomena of nature; because they were, comparatively speaking, guiltless of envy, craft, idleness, luxury, and the other prevalent vices and vanities of the present day; and because their practice was founded on, and directed by, the principles of real honesty, simplicity, and humanity; unlike the modern systems of a day, which owe their existence to gay dreams, to vague hypotheses, to insignificant inventions of new theories, nor, like them, court-
 ing the sanction of abstruse, technical terms, which, to use the words of an ingenious author, “serve only to disgrace the medical art, and to
 “render it above the comprehension of ordinary
 “persons;” and which have induced the more respectable part of the faculty to acknowledge *the cause why the fair face of physic has been so disfigured is, that it plainly appears at this day to be rather the art of TALKING than of HEALING.*

With a freedom due to truth I have already enlarged on the infinite bad consequences which accrue from the *fashionable* custom of bathing patients promiscuously in the springs of Bath, or in any other baths, whether natural or artificial, which, *like them*, are hotter than the blood: As *health* however, ought not to be sacrificed to *fashion*, and as the having recourse to such baths is of still more detriment in the PALSY than in any *other* disease, I cannot close the pre-

sent important subject without guarding *paralytic patients in particular* against a practice which has long shamefully prevailed to their destruction. —As usual, however, the reader shall not trust to my *ipse-dixit* merely; he shall have the irrefragable testimonies of the most experienced writers who have treated of such baths.

To begin then with WILLIS.—This author justly observes, “ The most generous medicines, “ improperly administered, do more harm than “ good;” and he adds, “ If going into baths “ hotter than the vital fire makes paralytics worse, “ it is because by thus bathing the blood and all “ the humours do more exalt their morbific and “ heterogeneous particles, and by forcing them “ into the brain and nerves, encrease the palsy.”

This truth is confirmed by LANGRISH, who says, “ By several processes we learn, that a degree of “ heat greater than that of a healthy person will “ soon render the blood and lymph, the bile, urine, “ and humours in general, highly saline, acrid, “ and alkaline, which deadly symptoms plainly “ appear from immersing in the Bath-waters.”

On this subject SHEBBEARE has written with great accuracy.—“ Let us observe,” says he, “ what will be the effect of the Bath-waters on a “ patient who, from a sanguine apoplexy termi- “ nating in a paralytic state, should be sent to “ bathe therein. The influence which the Bath-

“ waters have on the animal fluids is well known
 “ to be the generation of the crassamentum, or red
 “ part in the blood, and consequently a greater
 “ degree of vital heat. Will any physician, then,
 “ for the cure of a disease, order a medicine, calcu-
 “ lated to create a new supply to the cause which
 “ first produced it? Will he encrease the fibrous
 “ and red part of the blood to prepare that fluid
 “ to attract more vital heat, and to finish in the
 “ second stroke what was imperfect in the first? —
 “ This would be a delusive and destructive advice.
 “ The Bath-waters, then, in a recent palsy, can-
 “ not be also drank without much danger.

“ Let us examine farther, therefore,” continues
 he, “ what will be the effect of bathing in these
 “ streams.—The heat of the Cross-Bath, which
 “ is the most temperate, is from 93 to 100 degrees;
 “ the medium of which, being 96 1-half, is very
 “ near the degree at which it is in a state of health.
 “ —If a paralytic, in the condition above-menti-
 “ oned, should be ordered to bathe in the most
 “ temperate of the baths, at a time when the de-
 “ gree of heat in the atmosphere is at freezing, or
 “ 32degrees by FAHRENHEIT’s thermometer; what
 “ would be the probable effect of his being in an
 “ atmosphere which is 64 1-half degrees above it?
 “ Would not the lacerated membranes be yet more
 “ divided, the vessels distended, the cause which
 “ had been so fatal to the animal motion prolonged

“ by this degree of heat, and the cure rendered
 “ impracticable from the manner of treating it?”

BLACKMORE says, “ The waters of Bath have
 “ long been a celebrated remedy for removing pa-
 “ ralytic complaints, and restoring strength to
 “ weak and feeble limbs. I will show, however,
 “ wherein they are useful, and wherein they are
 “ either insignificant or hurtful.”—“ In such
 “ palsies,” continues he, “ as are consequent upon
 “ an apoplexy, or a transient stroke of a paraple-
 “ gia, or hemiplegia, a partial or more general
 “ bathing in the hot springs of Bath must be
 “ detrimental; because it only affects the skin,
 “ and exterior muscles, but cannot strengthen the
 “ brain, exuscitate and quicken the spirits, and
 “ free the nervous ducts from the noxious matter
 “ that obstructs them. No benefit can arise from
 “ any medicines or methods ineffectual to those
 “ purposes; and, according to my observations on
 “ this disease, commonly called the *dead palsy*, the
 “ going into the warm waters of Bath scarce ever
 “ relieved the patient; nor is it more beneficial to
 “ bathe in those waters in paralytic disorders that
 “ proceed from hypochondriac causes, especially
 “ in hysteric constitutions.”

“ The persons,” adds he, “ who reap the
 “ greatest, if not the *only*, advantage by going into
 “ the warm or hot springs at Bath, are those who
 “ have become lame and paralytic from external

“ causes, who are infirm in their limbs from
 “ bruises or strains, or who are disabled by hard
 “ labour, or suffering very sharp and rigorous
 “ weather; and I really believe it to have been
 “ such chiefly that, on the recovery of their
 “ strength, *have left behind them their crutches,*
 “ *and other supporters, as monuments of their*
 “ *conquests over their several infirmities.*”

In support of these truths, WILLIS again remarks to our purpose, that “ some paralytics be-
 “ ing of hot, and others of cold, constitutions, the
 “ remedies prescribed for them ought to be differ-
 “ ent; and there are none better than our warm
 “ baths, *if they were regulated by the animal heat,*
 “ and provided with better conveniencies for the
 “ bathers and the assistants; *from their defects in*
 “ *which points they do a great deal of harm, es-*
 “ *pecially in palsies.*

It appears then, that the heat of the springs of Bath is more dangerous than beneficial, particularly in paralytic, scorbutic, consumptive, gouty, and feverish cases, and to persons who are weak, relaxed, or infected with a v———l taint.

If it be true (and, indeed, it hath been clearly proved by ROBINSON) that “ when a person is
 “ heated by an ardent fever, by violent exercise,
 “ or by a *too hot bath*, his pulse is stronger than
 “ usual, and beats about twice as fast as it does in
 “ the morning, when his heart is free from the in-

“fluence of all disturbing cares; and that, in a
 “body so heated, the diameter of the blood-ves-
 “sels will be encreased in the proportion of from
 “10,000 to 13,195, the velocity of the blood in
 “that of from 10,000 to 11,487, and the tone of
 “the heart in that of from 10,000 to 17,411”—if
 these positions, I say, be true, it follows that, in the
 disorders above enumerated, even the *lowest heat*
 of such springs must, whether they are used in-
 ternally or externally, be of great prejudice to
 persons who are induced to pursue that method of
 regaining health.

All learned physicians, who have treated of the
 subject before us, concur with SHEBBEARE in af-
 firming, that “if the cause of a sanguinous palsy
 “be the effect of the Bath-water operating inter-
 “nally in the manner we have mentioned; and
 “if the heat of 96 1-half be that of the most tem-
 “perate bath, the absurdity of bathing such pa-
 “tients in the King’s Bath, which is from 98 de-
 “grees to 100, and in the hot baths, which are
 “from 105 to 122 is yet more glaring, and will
 “encrease every mischief, which there is so much
 “reason to dread from a less degree of heat.”

LANGRISH has farther evinced, that “the natural
 “and healthful heat of our blood is only 96 de-
 “grees, and that a heat not much exceeding 100
 “degrees, is found to coagulate the serum of the
 “blood, like the white of an egg.”—Is it not

manifest then as the sun at noon-day, that by bathing in the springs of Bath, or in any *other* natural or artificial water or vapour-bath of too much heat, the blood and lymph will become thick, acrid, curdled, and thus prove a source of the most fatal diseases ?

That these are the real and natural effects of excessive heat, we have the farther authority of BOERHAAVE, who observes, “if the heat of the
“ air should rise above 100 degrees, *no person*
“ *could live in it* ; because thereby the fluids would
“ be inspissated, or thickened, in such a manner,
“ as to bring on *immediate* death.”

With other learned physicians, this author also declares, “ In diseases arising from a decrease of
“ the vital heat, it is necessary, that the warmth
“ of the water be administered by degrees, and
“ with the *greatest caution imaginable*.”

CHEYNE too observes, “ In bathing, the *greatest*
“ *attention* must be paid to the *cause*, as well as
“ *actual condition*, of the disease ; to the consti-
“ tution and *vital heat* of the atmosphere, and
“ other circumstances.”

Upon this principle, all the fathers of the medical art have established it as an invariable maxim, that the grand object of a physician should be to maintain at a due standard the vital fire, and to restore and preserve regular the circulatory, secretory, and excretory functions ; because the

encreasing, decreasing, or disturbing, of any of these is the sole cause of all the diseases to which mankind are liable.

Many writers of acknowledged authority, beside those already quoted, having candidly shewn, that the practice of bathing in the springs of Bath is *particularly destructive in paralytic disorders*, I proceed to lay before my readers a few of the many extraordinary cases in which they have been easily, safely, and effectually, cured by my peculiar modes of preparing and applying vapour baths, fumigations, and frictions.

CASE I.

A Gentleman, aged thirty-one, of a *scorbutic*, though vigorous, and in general healthy, constitution, by going into a damp cellar, and remaining there a considerable time, though in a sweat, caught a cold, which was followed with a *cough*, a *head ach*, and a *tertian ague*, in spite of his being three times bled, and ordered to take several medicines, during the first two weeks, by his surgeon. His physician being consulted, he ordered him the jesuit's bark four times a day. By means thereof the *ague* was removed ; but his head remained heavy and dull, and he was afflicted with a violent pain, accompanied with a weakness in his back. For these complaints he was

advised to *bathe in the sea*, but had not done so above five or six times, when the *palsy* shewed itself, by his *speech* being all at once interrupted, his *senses confounded*, his *right hand and arm numbed*, and his *body* seized with an *universal tremor*. He then returned to town, and put himself again under the care of the above physician and surgeon; the latter of whom at length recommended him to me—when he found he could keep him from me no longer. By going into my properly-medicated vapour-baths, and through the moist and dry fumigations and frictions, in *thirteen weeks* he was discharged in perfect health, and has continued well ever since.

CASE II.

A gentleman of a *phlegmatic* and *scorbutic* constitution, and of flabby and relaxed fibres, at the age of *twenty-nine*, went through a salivation for a complaint, by using *mercurial ointment* under the direction of his surgeon. As it appeared, however, that four ounces thereof could not in eight days raise a spitting, nor affect his gums, *calomel-pills* were ordered him for four days, which produced first a *diarrhæa*, and afterwards a *bloody flux*. A physician being consulted, these complaints were stopped in three days by the power of *astringents* and *opiates*; but the patient

was afterwards not only excruciated with pains in the *head, back, and joints*, but actually *stupefied*. After having for *nine months* had repeated blisters applied to him, taking loads of the *bark, tincture of antimony, guaiacum, &c.* and strictly adhered to a milk and vegetable diet, though still to no purpose, he was advised to try the *sea-air* and *sea-bathing*; which he had not done above three weeks, when he was seized with a *paralytic stroke*, through which his *whole nervous system* being affected, he returned home: His disorder continuing to baffle all the powers of medicine, he was sent next to *Bath*, where, trying the *King's Bath*, at the *ninth bathing* he became *totally paralytic* in his *head, hands, arms, and legs*, and unable to obtain a stool for two or three weeks without the help of physic. In this desperate state he remained *eight years*, and was resigned to my care *helpless as an infant*. By going twice a day, however, through my agreeable operations, in twenty weeks he found himself able to walk five miles, and to ride twenty on horse-back, without stopping; in which happy state he left my house full of gratitude and joy for the *RADICAL CURE* he had obtained.

CASE III.

A gentleman of a *cold, scorbutic, and phlegmatic* constitution, and of *relaxed fibres*, was, at the age

of *fifty*, afflicted with several small ulcers, and with a large deep one just above the ankle-bone of his left foot, which was swelled, encircled with a hard, callous substance, and exceedingly painful. For *five years* he was attended alternately by several physicians and surgeons; and having, in the course of that time, undergone a *salivation of eleven weeks*, he lost *fifteen* of his *teeth*, and had *nearly* lost his *nose also*.—Tormented as he had been with a *constant itching* all over his body, this complaint now vanished; but to his *other* afflictions were added a shortness of breath, and a still-greater privation of rest and appetite. In the use of hemlock-pills, sassafras-tea, a milk-diet, and, once a week, the cold-bath, he now unremittingly persevered for *ten months*; at the expiration of which time, from an increased irritation of the ulcers, the discharge was found more ichorous, and, though his pains had left him, he was become *stupid* and *paralytic*. This process being of course laid aside, the bark, paregoric draughts, and fomentations, were prescribed, but with no better success. When reduced to the last extremity, and hardly able to move a limb of his body, his wife and daughter (at the instance of Mr. STEVENS, Mr. W——s, and Mr. and Mrs. G——, all of whom I had effectually cured of sundry inveterate *scorbutic disorders*) brought him to my house. In *less than a month*, by going

through the mild and agreeable operations proper for his case, he was overjoyed to find his complaints greatly subsided; and, by continuing the use of them for *seventeen weeks*, he left me **RADICALLY CURED.**

CASE IV.

A gentleman *aged upwards of sixty*, of a *scorbutic* and *bilious* constitution, and of relaxed nerves, who had for *nine years* laboured under a *palsy*, which affected him from the upper extremity of the right shoulder down to the foot, and for which he had bathed two seasons in the springs of *Bath*, but returned worse than he went. It was not till all other means failed, and the faculty had given him over, that he came to me. At first, I refused to meddle with him; adding, that I made it a general rule to decline all *paralytic* patients, who, like him had passed the age of *sixty*, and been for so many years afflicted. The next day, his friends waited upon me again, when they earnestly begging I would at least make a *trial* of my operations, I consented; and, by a due perseverance in them, I had the happiness to find, at the expiration of *two months*, that the old gentleman was able to walk, at a stretch, *three miles and back again*, to the astonishment of all who knew him. Indeed his health was so

completely re-established, that though he had not, for the last nine years, been able to write his name, without holding his right hand steady with his left, yet now he could write with as much facility and expedition, as at any former period.

The foregoing remarkable cases it is presumed are sufficient to evince the absolute necessity of establishing a *different* mode of treatment, and confirming the plan which I ORIGINALLY adopted, and have for many years successfully followed, to be of all others the most *beneficial* to the *patient*, and the most *honourable* to the *practitioner*, I shall now, in the prosecution of my plan, and in the support of the general doctrine I have laid down, take a *short view* of

THE DROPSY.

FROM the various facts I produced in treating expressly of the *scurvy*, &c. it cannot be denied, that these are the fertile source of almost all other distempers. Among the effects of either a *scorbutic* or a ——— taint, if not *both*, may certainly be reckoned dropsies. *Immoderate drinking* is indeed, generally the *secondary* cause of such complaints; and it acts as a strong auxiliary to the *primary*

one, by injuring the liver, spleen, lungs, and other viscera, according to the quantity and disposition of the morbid humours. All dropsies, therefore, ought to be considered as merely *symptomatic*.

Physicians make three *universal* dropsies, namely, the *ascites*, the *tympanites*, and the *anasarca*, besides a *particular* one, which affects the head, the breast, and the womb only.

The *ascites* usually makes its appearance with a swelling in the belly, whence it descends to the thighs, the legs, and the feet. Sometimes, indeed, it shows itself first on the feet, and thence extends, in the same gradation upwards.

The signs of an *ascites* are, when the abdomen, from the water collected therein, appears extended, soft, and tumid; when, on being pressed, it makes a noise; and when, the patient happening to turn himself from one side to the other, the whole belly seems to lie, as it were, on that side.

The dropsy, called *anasarca*, proceeds not only from either, or from all of the causes which produce the *ascites*, but from the having gathered throughout the whole body humours more thick and phlegmatic than those of the latter disorder, and equally unfit for nourishment—humours, which, as being excrementitious merely, nature had destined to be discharged through the pores of the skin, and through the urinary passages. As

these humours are much more crude and cold than the others, they greatly affect the liver, unless the disorder have for its *secondary* cause a dryness thereof, and either produce or increase cachexy. The symptoms of the *anasarca* are various, and appear sometimes in swellings of the feet, hands, and arms, sometimes of the whole body; which, when pressed with the finger, will indent, and leave an impression. In this species of the dropsy, the skin is of a pale and earthy aspect, the flesh soft and loose, the urine thin and white, the breathing difficult, and not unoften a lingering fever ensues. The same mode of treatment must be observed in the *anasarca* as in the *ascites*.

In a *tympanites*, the belly, on being struck, sounds like a drum; but in point of bulk it is less troublesomen than in an *ascites*. It produces a pain about the navel and reins; and though the belly remains hard and distended, when the patient lies upon his back, yet it does not incline to one side when he turns himself.

What I have set forth, relative to the proper method of treating the *ascites* and the *anasarca*, is nearly applicable to the *tympanites*; though the cure is attended with more difficulty. It may, however, afford the afflicted with these symptoms some consolation to be assured, that properly prepared vaporous and dry baths, and moist and dry

fumigations and frictions, are the best expedient which has been yet discovered for *radically curing* all dropsical complaints, even in their last and most desperate stages; provided, however, that a *new liver* and *other viscera* are not wanted, and that no attempts have been made to conquer the disease by the desperate, though fruitless, operations of *scarification* and *tapping*.

Riverius, declares, “ *Issues, blisters,* and scarifications, create, in dropsical cases, gangrenes and mortifications, by reason the heat of the part, being small, is quickly extinguished. On no account, (says he) must recourse be had to a paracentesis, or cutting of the skin, which, instead of curing the patient, especially in the last stages of the disorder, for the most part destroys him the second or third day after.*”†

But, waving authorities, to prove what in fact requires no proof, I proceed to my cases.

CASE I.

A reputable apothecary of London, *aged about sixty*, and of a constitution strongly tainted with

* SYDENHAM likewise condemns the use of blisters, and declares, “ The danger of a *gangrene* supervening is very considerable.

† Almost all other learned authors have reprobated the operation of the *paracentesis*, or as it is popularly styled, *tapping*; and both PETIT and LA MOTTE expressly say, “ It can never do more than *palliate the disease without removing the CAUSE.*”

the *scurvy*, through which his *gums* and *breath* were deeply affected, his *skin* was *parched*, and his *legs* and *ankles* were *swelled*, was subject to *rheumatic pains*, the *stranguary* and *gravel*; which complaints he had, with the assistance of several eminent physicians, frequently *palliated*, but could never effectually *cure*. Being at an advanced age, to these complaints was at length added an *anasarca*; for which being attended by several doctors, alternately, he was ordered to take a number of strong emetic, diuretic, and diaphoretic medicines, and to rub his body twice a day before the fire with *olive oil*. The consequence of these prescriptions was, that his hydro-pical disorder, instead of growing *better*, became daily *worse*; nor was it till he was *full of water from head to foot*, and given over by the *whole faculty*, that, by the recommendation of one of the said doctors, he was brought to my house. *Even then*, however, it was not *too late*; for, going through the operations proper for his case, namely, my arbitrarily-medicated and dry baths, he left me in *less than four months* **RADI-
CALLY** cured of his many complicated and inveterate symptoms.

CASE II.

The nephew of a respectable surgeon, in the county of York, aged *twenty-three*, having, after

a walk of several miles in one of the hottest days of summer, caught cold by exposing himself to a damp evening air, was seized with a *hoarseness*, a *shivering*, a *head ach*, and a *palpitation of the heart*. To these complaints a fever being added, his uncle bled him, and gave him some warming medicines. Finding him worse in the morning, he repeated the bleeding, and administered a vomit; which proving still ineffectual, saline drops, and the bark in powder, were prescribed. By these means the fever was in three weeks conquered; but a *shortness of breath*, a *lassitude*, and a *dryness of skin*, remaining, he *bathed in the sea* daily for two months, and thereby the former of these complaints *seemed* to be greatly relieved. His legs, however, *beginning by degrees to swell*, he was ordered to take the bark, and elixir of vitriol, and to rub the tumid parts with *camphorated spirits of wine*. The swelling coming to a height, and extending itself to his belly, with a great oppression of the stomach, strong cathartics and emetics were ordered, with frictions twice a day. In spite of every thing that could be done, in a few weeks his belly appeared still more distended with water. After having in vain tried medicated beer, broom-ashes, and every other *supposed* remedy for the dropsy, he was put, by the direction of his uncle, under my care; and in *thirteen weeks*, by going through the operations

proper for his case, I had the happiness to discharge him in *perfect health*.

CASE III.

The Rev. Dr. ——— of relaxed fibres, of a corpulent constitution, had for *twelve years* been subject to swellings in his *feet, ankles, and legs, particularly at night*, and to an uncommon dullness and drowsiness every day after dinner. In this condition, at the age of *sixty*, in spite of loads of medicines taken daily, his complaints continued to encrease. From the feet and legs the swelling rose to the belly, and was followed by a shortness of breath, a loss of appetite and rest, and a continual thirst; nor could he *lie in bed*, without having his head supported by *five or six pillows*. All their other methods having failed, the faculty recommended a *scarification*, which, happily for the patient, was prevented, in consequence of his having received a visit from his friend, who, convincing him, *from his own knowledge*, of the mischiefs that would accrue from that operation, and of a variety of cures performed by my operations, in cases similar to his own, and still more desperate. brought him to my house, where, in *three months*, by going through the agreeable and salutary operations proper for his case, he obtained a complete triumph over his disorder, and left me in *perfect health*.

CASE IV.

B—— R——, Esq. of a *scorbutic constitution*, and frequently troubled with *scaly eruptions* on his *face, arms, legs, &c.* at the age of *thirty three* went through a slight salivation for a ——— complaint, of which having never been *effectually* cured, he suffered from every change of the weather incredible pain, sometimes in his *head and shoulders*, and sometimes in his *hands, knecs, and feet*; on the latter of which appeared an *edematose swelling*, particularly at night. By these complaints, pronounced, in the USUAL STYLE OF DECEPTION, to be either *rheumatic* or *gouty*, or, more absurd still, effects of the *rheumatic gout*, he was retained a *constant tributary* by the *medical tribe*, who bled him several times,* and gave him a variety of *opiate* and *other* medicinal preparations, but to no purpose, unless it was to encrease his misery. He was likewise *habitually costive*; and to remove this complaint, *strong cathartics* were administered. At length a *diarrhœa of eleven days* deprived him of the little strength and flesh

* No prudent physician will prescribe bleeding, unless it be to prevent the bad effects of an inflammation; because it is an operation which, serving only to impoverish the blood, and to weaken the patient, is of itself sufficient to produce a dropsy.—How destructive must it not be, then, where there is already a tendency to that disorder!

he had left; and, *with the help of the medicines taken for it*, his disorder terminated in an ASCITES. Broom-ashes, the juice of artichokes, medicated beer, and other *popular* remedies, were then tried, but in vain; and when the day was fixed for tapping him, his heart recoiling at the horrid operation, he had the good fortune to elude it, by putting himself immediately under my care; to which, indeed, he had been strongly induced by a worthy friend, who, among other things, related to him the remarkable circumstances attending the case of a lady of fashion, whom, to the surprise of all who knew her, I had cured of a *confirmed dropsy*, after she had been given over by her physician, and by others of the faculty equally eminent. By going through my operations not less agreeable in themselves, than they are salutary in their effects, this gentleman obtained from me in *eleven weeks*—what he never *could have obtained* from any other quarter—a RADICAL CURE.

I shall now, in the farther support of my system, give some account of the

P H T H I S I S,

AND OF

CONSUMPTIONS IN GENERAL.

I have already intimated, that a *scorbutic* or a ——— taint, if not a *mixture of both*, whether hereditary or acquired, is the *mediate* cause of

this dreadful malady. However, it is for the most part an effect of having caught cold, whereby are occasioned a sudden constipation of the secretory vessels, and a *repulsion* of the saline, acrid, and viscous, humours, instead of an *expulsion* of them through the proper channels. Such humours, affecting the *trachea* or *aspera arteria*, through which we draw in the air, excite a cough, and a preter-natural heat. The secretory functions being thereby obstructed, the circulation of the blood becomes languid; the proper motion and crasis thereof are prevented; the serosity and viscosity of the peccant matter are increased; and the little bladders, annexed to the small branches of the said *trachea*, are gradually filled and distended, till they burst. Hence, ulcers being generated in the small lobes of the lungs, the nutritious juices are rendered still more serous, acrid, and corrosive; of which the natural consequence is, that, the concoctive faculties being exceedingly weakened, and a putrid, hectic fever established, a manifest consumption of the whole body takes place.

This hectic fever is divided by physicians into several kinds, according to the variety of its causes. These arise from a *cachexy* or *cacochymy*; which BOERHAAVE defines “an universal bad habit of body, proceeding from a defect in nutrition. This,” he adjustly adds, “must proceed

“ from a *depravation* of the nutritious juices ; from
 “ a fault in the vessels which ought to receive
 “ those juices ; or from a deficiency in the action
 “ of the animal œconomy, whereby a due propor-
 “ tion of the circulating fluids is prevented from
 “ being applied to the solids for their nutrition.”

To our purpose SYDENHAM also observes, “ The
 “ hectic phthisis originates from the trickling,
 “ in consequence of having caught cold, especially
 “ in winter, of a sharp humour upon the lungs,
 “ which it irritates, like a catarrh, so as to raise a
 “ cough. This by degrees brings on other symp-
 “ toms ; as a spitting, first of a viscous pituita,
 “ or phlegm, then of a heavy, fœtid pus, then of
 “ pure blood, and sometimes of the very substance
 “ of the lungs, which have become rotten by a
 “ long exulceration.”

This author having added, that, “ the phthisis
 “ kills two-thirds of those who die of chronical
 “ diseases,” I proceed to show, that this lament-
 able distemper, whether the *cause* thereof be a
latent ——— *taint*, or whether it be a peripneu-
 mony, pleurisy, asthma, cough, catarrh, diarrhœa,
 excess of grief, intense study, or any other *pri-*
mary source, or *ultimate effect*, of the *scurvy*, it
 can never be *eradicated* with so much ease and
 safety to the patient, or honour and credit to
 the practitioner, as by my treatment ; which, as I
 have already again and again evinced, are distin-

guished for these peculiar advantages, that they open the secretory and excretory channels, when obstructed, restore them to their natural state, when too open and relaxed, and gradually, not only repel, from the center to the circumference, all acrid, serous, and corrosive humours, and expel them through the pores of the skin, (without which salutary effects the hectic fever, fraught as it is with destruction, *cannot* be removed,) but, at the same time, promote inspiration and expiration, as well as expectoration, and introduce into the mass of the blood and lymph, through the absorbent vessels, as well as through the mouth and nose, the diluting, balsamic, and nourishing medicinal substances, necessary for attenuating the viscous humours, and dulcifying the corrosive ones ; for deterging and healing all internal ulcers, especially of the lungs ; for strengthening the concoctive faculties, and the action of the viscera ; and for giving to the muscular and nervous fibres their due tone and elasticity. All this they agreeably and effectually accomplish, provided, however, (as I observed in speaking of the *dropsy*) the lungs, and other viscera, have not been *too long*, and *too deeply*, affected.

When I come to treat of consumptive disorders more at large, I shall make it incontestibly appear, that phlebotomy can afford, at best, but a *momentary* relief to the patient ; and that a repe-

tition of this operation is sure to rob the already-too-much impoverished blood—that *soul of man*, as it has been emphatically termed—of its benign and balsamic quality, without carrying off any material part of the morbid matter, or preventing a return thereof. Among other prevalent abuses in the treatment of such complaints, I shall likewise prove, that by the use of perpetual blisters, the *necessary* lymphatic juices are more attracted than the *superfluous* ones; and that, from the *fiery* qualities of the *cantharides*, which form the chief ingredient of such destructive applications, a perseverance therein can only serve to accumulate mischiefs which *otherwise* would never have existed. As for the oleous and farinaceous emulsions, the squills, the snails, the mille-pedes, the beef-tea, the butter-milk, and other *popular slops*, all I shall say is, that unhappy is the patient who *trusts to THEM for a cure*. If such trumpery serves to *amuse* him, it is all that can be expected. Indeed, the only reason why the disorders in question have been so often pronounced incurable is, that *rational methods* are not adopted for the *effectual* expulsion of it, and that so many of the faculty, warped by prejudice and self-interest, are deaf to the admonitions of HIPPOCRATES, GALEN, CELSUS, BACCIUS, RIVERRIUS, BOERHAAVE, SYDENHAM, and their learned and honest followers, who have in numberless

places declared; that by medicated baths, fumigations, and frictions, the *primary*, as well as *secondary*, causes of all consumptive complaints being removed, their dire effects are finally eradicated, without the possibility of a return, unless by the creation of some *new* cause.

Thanks to the *hints* which I received in my early youth from these illustrious fathers of the healing art, and which have formed the basis of all the improvements that have ever since distinguished my practice, and rendered the plan on which it is established more extensively useful than any other yet known. I have been enabled to confirm the truth of the above remarks in a multitude of instances; at present, however, I shall quote but a few.

CASE I.

It is now about *five years* since I was seized with a most severe cough, oppression upon my lungs, and slow fever, which would not allow me the smallest rest, night or day. These complaints were brought on by irregularity of living, and by bathing in cold water, when heated with eating and drinking. The most eminent physicians attended me, and prescribed repeated bleedings, vomitings, blisterings, an immense number of balsamic and nitrous emulsions, and soporiferous

draughts, loads of snails and beef-tea, and at last a milk and vegetable diet. My disorder becoming daily more and more desperate, they one and all pronounced me *a dying man*. I then took lodgings a little way from town, for the sake of breathing a clearer air. This measure appeared of no farther utility than to procure me an easier death ; for I was so emaciated, that I resembled a *walking shadow*. In this melancholy situation, despaired of by the faculty, though still, for *obvious reasons*, not deserted by them, Providence brought me acquainted with you. By going through the usual operations of your medicated vapour-baths, fumigations, and frictions, so wonderful a change hath been produced in my constitution, that I find myself a *new man*. Though it is not above *eleven weeks* since I had the happiness of committing myself to your care, yet I am so surprisingly recovered, as to be capable of walking, in one hour and ten minutes, four miles, without the least fatigue. My appetite is thoroughly re-established ; and so happily do I find myself restored to the full possession of my former health, activity, and vigour, that I think of mounting my horse to-morrow morning, in order to take a tour of several hundred miles into the north. I am, your ever obliged friend.*

* Six months afterwards, having returned to town in perfect health, this gentleman presented me with a very handsome present.

CASE II.

A gentleman, aged *twenty-three*, caught cold in coming out of the play-house; he had also a cough, a pain in the side, and other hectic symptoms. Dr. ——— observing, that neither bleeding, nor blistering, nor medicines, were sufficient to check the progress of his complaints, ordered him to take ass-milk twice a-day, to live upon chickens and other light food, and to drink nothing at his meals but skimmed milk. Having, notwithstanding this regimen, fallen into a *confirmed consumption*, he was next advised to go into the country, to use exercise on horseback, to mix as much as possible with agreeable company, and, strictly abstaining from animal food, to subsist entirely upon milk and vegetables. In this course he persevered for three months; at the expiration of which, he *found his cough still worse, and he became subject to an almost continual expectoration of purulent matter, tinged with blood*. Shocked at his situation, he returned to London, and consulted Dr. ———, who, after having prescribed for him above a month, and seen that nothing could be done by *medicines*, advised him, as the only possibility of saving his life, to try the benefit of a *sea voyage*, and of a change of air. For this purpose he recommend-

ed him to take a trip to Naples or Padua ; and anxious to procure a passage in the first ship that was to sail for either of those places, he immediately sent to a merchant in the city, in order to bespeak one for him. This merchant (from the many signal instances he had witnessed of the peculiar ease, safety, and efficacy, of the operations, in the most desperate cases, while himself under my roof for an inveterate scorbutic disorder, from which I had the happiness to restore him to perfect health,) dissuaded him from this resolution, by giving him an account of many cures I had performed in cases similar to his own, which had baffled the skill of the most eminent physicians in Europe. He accordingly resigned himself wholly to my care, and in *sixteen weeks*, obtained from me a *radical cure*.

CASE III.

A gentleman, aged *twenty-nine*, of a *scorbutic constitution*, and rigid fibres, so fond of the pleasures of the chace, that rather than miss one day's sport, he would expose himself to all the rigours of the most tempestuous weather, perpetually catching cold, and perpetually in the hands of the faculty, which produced an *universal muscular decay*, attended with an *habitual hectic fever*, *cough*, and *defluxion of purulent matter*. Drs.

—— and —— were alternately consulted for *two years*; when, instead of having been in any degree relieved by them, to his former complaints were added a *spitting of blood*, a *pain under the ribs*, and other symptoms generally pronounced fatal. In consequence of high recommendation, this gentleman was immediately brought to my house, where he put himself under my care, with two *perpetual* blisters, one on his back, and one on his right side, with an issue at the lower extremity of his thigh. By going through my agreeable, safe, and effectual, operations, he was in *seventeen weeks* **RADICALLY** cured of **ALL** his complaints.

CASE IV.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. ——, Surgeon, in London, to the Proprietor of the Downing Street Baths.

“ When my daughter came to your house, the medical people, as well as myself, looked upon her in the last stage of a consumption. It was not in my power, at that time, to give you a narrative of her reduced situation; but as she is now recovered, I think it incumbent upon me to state her case as it then was.

“ About the middle of February last, from waiting in the passage at the Opera, for a carriage,

she was seized with a *hoarseness* and *cough*. In the space of six or eight weeks, the *expectoration* was *purulent*, and in great quantities, attended with every peripneumatic symptom, or *inflammation of the lungs*, such as *difficulty of breathing*, and *pains in her breast and side*; insomuch, that she was not able to lie down in her bed, her pulse small, and beat at the rate of 140 at least in the space of a minute, with pains spreading from the sternum to the scapula: *Want of perspiration*, with other obstructions, attended her; and what moisture appeared upon the skin was only produced by the violence of coughing. As every method had been taken, such as *repeated bleedings*, *blisters*, &c. &c. to little purpose, we intended in a day or two to have sent her to Bristol; but in the interim having been told of your medicated vapour-baths, I was determined to try them for a few days, notwithstanding we thought her too far gone, and not supposing she could live ten days. However, in a very few trials, we were most agreeably surprised at her being so considerably better. In the space of *ten days*, she could lie flat in her bed, her cough much abated, the expectoration of matter lessened, and no appearance of blood, her pores open, respiration free and easy, without pain, which before was excruciating; her pulse reduced under 100, slept well, appetite greatly mended; in short, in the space of

three weeks, from being carried up and down stairs, she was able to walk a mile ; and at this present time is as well as ever.

“ Thus have I given you a detail of her disorder from first to last ; as it will be a satisfaction to you, it is no less so to

“ Your most obliged humble servant.”

OF
NODOUS AND SCHIRROUS TUMOURS;
AND OF
ULCERS,
FISTULAS, AND CANCERS.

THE ablest physicians and anatomists have defined a nodous, or a schirrous, tumour to be any thing that coagulates, inspissates, or dries up, the juices of the glands ; in any of which it may be produced, but especially in those of which the juices, from a natural tendency to inspissation, are most apt to stagnate.

These melancholy complaints appear in different parts of the body, as the nose, the lips, the mouth, the tonsils, the arm-pits, the breast, the lungs, the liver, the abdomen, the groin, the genitals, &c. To account for the production of them, we must observe, that as confessedly the benign, balsamic, and nutritious, juices cannot be corrupted, coagulated, and hardened, but by

acid, saline, and corrosive humours, whether *scorbutic*, ——— or *scrophulous*, (which last, as I have shown, is always the effect of *one* of the former, if not *both*,) and that as, by the sole means thereof, all obstructions, coagulations, and durities, are formed in the glands, or branches of the secretory or excretory ducts, so, when once such humours have insinuated themselves, and become compacted among the glandulous parts, they form a *solution of continuity* in the circulation of the fluids, a disjunction of the solids, and a destruction of their proper form. Hence it is, that nodous and schirrous tumours are so often found to be incurable by medicines; because, being thus confined and indurated in the glands, the blood and lymph are not possessed of an *impetus* sufficient to act upon them, but are, on the contrary, repelled into the mass of the juices, leaving the parts affected to be encreased, both in bulk and hardness, by fresh accretions of offensive matter.

Convinced of these self-evident truths, it is a fact acknowledged by every gentleman of the medical profession, *who means to do justice to his patients*, that the peculiar difficulty which attends the mollifying and dissolving all coagulations and durities can never be so effectually surmounted as by my means of preparing and applying arbitrarily medicated vapour-baths, frictions, and moist and dry internal and external fumigations; be-

cause thereby the pores of the skin are freed from all impurities, the muscular and nervous glands are relaxed, the most minute obstructions, however distant from the surface, are opened, and (the arterial blood being pushed gradually, though with an encreased momentum, to those hitherto clogged, but now disencumbered, vessels, in which, from the inspissation and induration of the fluids, the nodous or schirrous tumour had been formed,) a free passage is with ease and efficacy procured for the blood and lymph.

It is ingenuously confessed by them also, that from the *common practice* it is hardly possible to obtain such salutary effects, much less those (more essential still) of expelling, through the excretory pores of the whole ambit, the acrid, saline, and corrosive humours from which such complaints had primarily originated, without allowing them time to fall on some yet nobler part of the body; and that, without the aid of my treatment, it is equally vain to expect to introduce, through the absorbent vessels, the highly requisite dulcifying, assimilating, and nourishing juices; to regulate the circulatory, secretory, and excretory functions; and thus to restore to the fluids and vessels their natural equilibrium.

On the same principles, it is an established truth among the respectable part of the faculty, that there are few cases more difficult to be cured,

or even *palliated*, than those of *fistulous tumours*; because, being formed of various hard *sinuses*, which seldom admit of being *cut*, the more they are remote from the *anus*, from the *membrana adiposa* of the abdomen, or from any other external part, (especially when, affecting the breast, they extend to the *axillary glands*,) the more they elude the skill of the operator. Indeed, experience cannot but furnish them daily with too many proofs, that, *even when cut*, it is rarely in their power to prevent tumours, whether *fistulous*, *schirrous*, *cancerous*, or *scrophulous*, from returning, with aggravated fury, to the same or other more noble parts; and for this reason, that the *primary cause* which had produced them was not extirpated, by a restoration of the benign and balsamic quality of the blood, and by a re-establishment of the animal functions.

That these happy effects can alone, with any degree of certainty, be obtained by my system, we have, among a multitude of others, the authorities of RIVERIUS, HOFFMAN, BOERHAAVE, HEISTER, ASTRUC, SHAW, TURNER, and TISSOT, who have long since clearly shewn, that *properly medicated and vapour-baths, fumigations, and frictions*, are the only resource for effectually expelling *all nodous, schirrous, fistulous, and scrophulous tumours*; a doctrine, judiciously enforced by BARTHOLINI, who expressly says, “ In such com-

“plaints, nothing is more difficult than to make
 “medicines *reach the place affected*, because, slid-
 “ing down the gullet, they are much lessened in,
 “or totally deprived of, their virtues.”

As for ulcers, they seldom, unless when the effect of some accidental violence, appear but in schirrous parts, where a stagnation and coagulation have been formed of the acid, salt, and corrosive humours therein fixed, and where, from the corroding qualities of such humours, a discontinuity hath been effected in the texture of the fleshy parts. This it was which induced ETMULLER, on the authority of GALEN, and of other learned authors, to define an ulcer to be “a solution of
 “continuity, occasioned by the sharpness, acrimony, and corrosiveness, of the humours, by
 “which the nutritious juices of the body are
 “converted into sanious matter.”

All learned authors, from HIPPOCRATES down to BOERHAAVE, LE DRAN, and even the *honest* practitioners of the present day, have declared, that to heal ulcers, whether new or old, whether simple or complicated, whether putrid, fistulous, sinuous, carious, phagædenic, or varicous, *without previously eradicating the peccant humours by which they had been generated*, is not only absurd, but criminal; a truth strongly inculcated by TISSOT, who, concurring with the above writers, observes, “It is impossible to cure ulcers without

“destroying the cause and fuel of them. It is in fact, adds he, a real misfortune to the patient if his attendant thus closes them. We may daily see sudden deaths, or very tormenting diseases, ensue from this practice.”

What I have advanced in proof of the peculiar efficacy of my plan, in the treatment of schirrous tumours, is still more applicable to that of *ulcers*; which complaints, though derived from the *same cause*, and consequently (the differences of ages, constitutions, and other circumstances excepted) to be removed by the *same means*, are yet less difficult of cure. I refer the reader to various preceding passages of the work before us. In these he will find the most *inveterate* ulcers—ulcers pronounced *incurable* by all other means, with ease, with safety, and with efficacy, *eradicated* by my means.

The present mode of treating *cancers* being nearly the same as that of treating *schirrous tumours* and *ulcers*, it is still more fallacious, still more destructive; and, as such, with yet greater indignation has it been condemned by all enlightened physicians, both ancient and modern, who have with candour declared their sentiments on the subject.—Of *mercury* I have already said enough to convince every unprejudiced mind of the mischiefs which flow from that poisonous mineral, now, *under one mask or other*, prescribed by many

regular practitioners with as little scruple as by quacks. Of *hemlock*, and of the other pretended *specifics* so confidently recommended by the present *delusive* practice, I shall at present only observe, that if in *ulcerous* or *cancerous* cases they are less *injurious* than *mercury*, they are not less *inefficacious*, whether used *internally* as medicines, or *externally* as topical applications.

CASE I.—NODOUS TUMOURS.

J. S. Esq. of a *scorbutico* ——— habit, and of an *irregular life*, was afflicted with *two nodosities* under his left arm-pit, and with *one* upon his elbow; neither of which gave him any pain. During *fourteen years*, the medical tribe *amused* him with various *names* for these complaints; but at length, a *fourth* nodosity appearing, and that under his ribs, they put him under a *salivation*. At the end of *eleven weeks more*, being reduced to a skeleton, and his complaints continuing to *encrease* rather than *diminish*, he was persuaded to resign himself wholly to my management, by a gentleman, who had given him the most satisfactory assurances of a number of remarkable cures I had performed, and particularly in the case of his own son, who had been afflicted with an ulcer of uncommon inveteracy in one of the tonsils, ac-

complicated with several obstinate kernels under the jaws. By going through the mild and agreeable operations suited to his disorder, age, constitution, and other critical circumstances, Mr. S. obtained from me a RADICAL CURE, and in *fifteen weeks* was discharged in PERFECT HEALTH.

CASE II.

SCHIRROUS TUMOUR AND CANCER.

The Rev. Mr. T. W. being troubled with a *scorbutic eruption*, was ordered to *bathe in the sea for it*. For this purpose he took a trip to Margate; but had not been there three weeks, when, beside being siezed with a head-ache, and a shortness of breath, a kernel made its appearance on the nipple of the left breast. Dr. F. who attended him, told him to desist from bathing, as it only tended to repel the scorbutic humour into the viscera: he prescribed bleeding, and various medicines. In spite of every precaution, however, the *kernel* enlarged into an *alarming schirrous tumour*, accompanied with a *high fever*. In order to soften the former, *poultices*, and to alleviate the latter, *sudorifics*, were administered. Of *both* the intentions were answered; for in the course of a week, the tumour broke, with a plentiful discharge, the fever disappeared, and the

sore was supposed to be thoroughly digested and healed. A *confirmed cancer*, however, soon spread itself; and, to remove it, it was proposed to have recourse to the knife. A friend of his persuaded him on no account to submit to that fruitless, cruel operation, but to come to my house, which he immediately did; and, having gone regularly through the mild and agreeable operations proper for his case, he obtained from me, in *thirteen weeks*, a RADICAL CURE, and, with it, a restoration of his pristine HEALTH.

CASE III.—A CANCER.

Mr. G. P. of a *scorbutic* constitution, and a profitable *customer* to the faculty, (who, *as usual*, had totally corrupted the juices of his body by loads of *mercury*, administered to him in every different form) in shaving himself, *cut the corner of his mouth*. Having scraped off a small quantity of the nap of his hat, he immediately stopped the bleeding therewith; but at night, while in bed, teased with a pricking and itching on the injured part, he could not obtain a moment's rest. Such too was the rigidity, or tightness, of his mouth in the morning, that he could not open it to eat his breakfast without great pain. The family surgeon being sent for, that gentleman

ordered him to rub the part with *GOULARD'S pomatum*; but in a few days, perceiving the sore to grow more and more inveterate, and fearing it would terminate in a *cancer*, he gave him several boxes of *hemlock-pills*, and put him under a slight *salivation*. These pills and this process proving, to say the least of them, *ineffectual*, and the dreaded *cancer* manifesting itself, he had recourse to the *amputating system*; and when the sore seemed to be healed, he sent him into the country, with directions to live on milk and vegetables, and to continue in the use of the same *hemlock-pills*. In two months a small tumour appeared in his throat, which, though unattended with pain, grew daily bigger. By the surgeon of the place this new complaint was slightly pronounced of no moment, as being the mere effect of some sudden cold he had caught. At the end of three months more, the tumour became painful when he coughed, and produced a difficulty in swallowing. Alarmed at his situation, Mr. P. returned to London, and again applied to his former surgeon, who gave him a box of the old pills, and ordered him to gargle his throat with an infusion of sage in red wine and water, and to wash it outwardly with goulard. In spite of every thing this practitioner could do, the operation of the *knife* was *once more* found necessary, and would in a day or two have been performed,

if a gentleman from Yorkshire had not in the interim given him a detail of the extraordinary case of a lady, whom I had cured of several *schirrous tumours*, after she had been abandoned to despair by the ablest of the faculty. He was accordingly brought to my house; whence, by going regularly through the operations proper for his case, I had the happiness to discharge him, at the end of *four months*, effectually freed from every complaint, and in the full possession of a renovated health and vigour.

CASE IV.—A SCHIRROUS TUMOUR.

Master R. when at the age of *ten*, was discovered by his mother to have an internal *schirrous tumour*, the size of an egg, at the pit of his stomach. At first, as it gave him no pain, little notice was taken of it; but, at length, finding that it gradually increased, and that the boy began to be affected in his breath, especially when he laughed, was at play, or took any unusual exercise, his parents, full of alarm, took the best advice which the faculty could afford. At the expiration of *four years*, in the course of which he had tried every CUSTOMARY expedient, a SALIVATION not excepted, the disorder was manifestly worse, and the constitution of the patient, naturally good, was

most deplorably *shattered*. In this state the young gentleman was brought to my house ; and in *fourteen weeks*, the tumour being effectually dispelled, and the natural, benign and balsamic quality of the juices restored, I had the pleasure to restore him to his father and mother in *perfect health*.

CASE V.—A FISTULA.

A gentleman of Worcestershire, aged about *twenty-four*, and of a scorbutic habit, was subject to the *piles* ; to palliate which, he had been times unnumbered bled, both with leeches and with the lancet. The *piles* terminating in a *confirmed fistula*, he was *salivated once*, and *cut twice*, for it. By this treatment he became a feeble, emaciated spectacle ; nor could he sit down without having a roller, stuffed with cotton, placed under him. To such a pitch, too, had the *mercury* affected his eyes, and the *meninges* of his brain, that he could not bear the smallest light, by night or by day, and was otherwise in a state of distraction. In this deplorable condition, he was recommended to my care by Mr. H. an eminent merchant in London, who had witnessed many amazing cures I had performed, and who had himself been restored by me to perfect health, when languishing under a most inveterate

scorbutic disorder.—In *four months*, by going regularly through my pleasing operations, this gentleman was discharged **RADICALLY** cured.

To the consideration of nodous and schirrous tumours, ulcers, fistulas, and cancers, succeeds that of a disease which **AVICENNA**, with not more boldness than truth, has stiled an **UNIVERSAL CANCER**, namely,

LEPROSY.

This disorder was distinguished by the ancients into two kinds, viz. the *Grecian leprosy*, and the *Arabian leprosy*. They seem, however, to have only differed in their degrees; the symptoms of the former being less grievous than those of the latter.

GALEN defines the *lepra* “an affusion of thick, disorderly blood, which hath corrupted the whole habit of the body.”—*The patient is, indeed, long affected with the cause of the disorder INWARDLY, before the effect shews itself OUTWARDLY*; which when it does, the whole, though sometimes only a part, of the body is incrustated with dry, thin, white, scurfy, scabs, accompanied, for the most part, with a tormenting itching, and with other disagreeable sensations.

By all authors, **LEPROSY** is allowed to proceed from a **GREAT OBSTRUCTION OF PERSPIRATION**, whereby the thin, acrid, and saline humours, which have been separated from the blood, in order to be expelled through their proper channels, the pores of the skin, are blocked up by the indurated and contracted valves of the excretory ducts. Being thus **REPELLED INTO THE MASS OF THE FLUIDS**, and **ENCREASED IN THEIR ACRIMONY** and **SALTNESS**, they **STAGNATE**, **COAGULATE**, and **HARDEN**, in the throat, the liver, the breast, the mesentery, the kidneys, the womb, or other noble part; and thereby have a tendency to create, beside the **LEPROSY**, the disorders of which we have last treated, namely, nodous and schirrous tumours, ulcers, fistulas, and cancers, as also the stone and gravel, the gout and rheumatism, the dropsy, the palsy, the scrophula, and, indeed, all the other systomatic effects of a scorbutic, a ——— or a scorbutico ——— taint.

The persons most subject to the leprosy are those who live near the sea, or in low, damp, marshy places. The former situation is, however, chiefly productive of it; because the inhabitants, surrounded with a saline, and therefore a peculiarly-offensive, air, cannot avoid constantly inhaling it through the mouth and nostrils, and attracting the most subtil particles of it through the absorbent vessels. Unable to enter the infinitely

small mouths of these tubes, the grosser particles adhere to the thin membrane of the cuticle, which they fret, corrode, and render dry, brittle, and white. This it is which creates the *scaly substances* peculiar to the leprosy, and which occasions them to fall off. As the whiteness, as well as the brittleness, thereof proceeds merely from the quantity of salts collected, which are themselves white, so these salts, being left destitute of their moisture, become *acuminated*; and insinuating themselves into the pores of the cuticle, by their points and edges they dissolve its continuity, which being at length finally destroyed, the above-mentioned desquamation, sometimes branny, and sometimes fine as flour, is produced by the least friction, or casual touch.

We have already intimated, that the symptoms of the *Arabian leprosy* (or, as it is otherwise styled, the *elephantiasis*, because therein the skin is rough and wrinkled like the *hide of an elephant*) are more severe than those of the *Grecian*. In the latter, the salts, being deprived of their moisture, are less active, and consequently less liable to be attracted by the absorbent vessels. Their chief influence, therefore, is on the cuticle; but by this effect, added to others, the secretory ducts are obstructed, and the thin, acrid, and saline humours are *confined in the body*, instead of being *expelled through their proper channels, the pores of the*.

skin. In the *lepra Arabum*, on the contrary, those salts, with the humours which serve for their vehicle, crowd faster than they can be ejected through the said pores ; and being still in a *fluid state*, therefore *more caustic*, they corrode deeper, and eat, not only through the excretory vessels, but through whatever obstructs their passage to the miliary glands, and to the surface of the skin ; which thereby throws out a liquor, now rendered some whatviscous. Only the thinnest, and most aqueous, parts of this liquor, however, being evaporated, the remainder becomes condensed into that crust, or scab, which we have observed to be the distinguishing characteristic of the leprosy, and which, hindering the evacuation of the *perspiratory excrements* (*ten times* more necessary than all the excrements beside) renders the body a *mass* of morbidic humours ; *humours*, which, sooner or later, infallibly break out in this or that part of the body, according to the constitution of the patient, his habits of life, and other contingent circumstances.

Let me ask, then, ye learned, and ye upright, physicians of the *present day* (and it is on the opinions of those of *days past*, that I build my questions) let me ask, I say, how shall the injuries thus done to the *stamina* of the skin be repaired ? How shall the acrid, saline, and otherwise-offensive, humours, thus pent up, and blend-

ed with the benign, balsamic, and nutritious, juices, *with the very essence of the body*, be expelled? Produced as the disease was by the destruction of the circulatory, secretory, and excretory functions, how, by the necessary re-establishment of those functions, shall it be eradicated?—*Shall it be by CATHARTICS?* No: *cathartics* can only evacuate by *stool* the gross excrements of the *first digestion*, and, in doing this small service, do an infinitely-greater mischief, by weakening the concoctive powers of the stomach and intestines.—*Shall it be by DIURETICS?*—No: *diuretics* can only discharge by *urine* another gross excrement, that of the *second digestion*; and, if persisted in, will not only deprive the kidneys and ureters of their necessary nutritious mucus, but distend the bladder, relax or contract its sphincter, and give admission to a variety of noxious particles, from which are generated gravel, stone, and ulcers.—*Shall it be by the SUDORIFICS of the MODERN PRACTICE, whether used INTERNALLY or EXTERNALLY?*—No: the *sudorifics of the modern practice*, whether used *internally* or *externally*, cannot act upon the disorder at all, or, if they do, they must, as in every other complaint which has originated from the same source, INCREASE it; because not only the mouths of the secretory and excretory ducts have been destroyed, and the capillary vessels have lost their cohesion, but the stamina of the skin have been deprived of

their continuity, and the deformed surface thereof has become nothing more than an ulcerated sore, or an incrustated scab, which, of course, cannot but be farther irritated by the acrimony of the peccant matter thus *forced* thither.—Even the *boasted mercury*, let it be prepared, or disguised, or administered, how it will, can only destroy the *little* balsam of the fluids, and *still less* texture of the solids, which may have been left; thus rendering itself a fertile source of evils more deplorable, if possible, than those I have heretofore, in various places, enumerated.—The *cold bath* repels the peccant matter from the circumference to the center; and thus, affecting the viscera, or other noble parts, add new fuel to the flame.—*Bathing in the sea* can only produce the same effect, by augmenting that SALINE quality in the juices, with which they are already too deeply, and too fatally, impregnated.—*Bathing in the springs of Bath or Buxton*, or in any other springs, which, *like them*, are hotter than the blood, far from *curing* such maladies, is of itself sufficient, as I have in another place proved, to make a *simple scorbutic eruption* degenerate into a *confirmed leprosy*.—From a *milk and vegetable diet*, particularly for persons who have been accustomed to *high living*, the benefit is equally hopeless. As all transitions from one extreme to another are dangerous, and as people in general are more used

to excess in eating and drinking than to moderation in either, the general effect of regimens of this sort is, to weaken the concoctive powers, already too much impaired ; nor do they ever answer any good end, unless the acrid and saline humours have been previously restored to their natural benign state, the deformities of the skin removed, and the circulatory, secretory, and excretory functions re-established.

For the reasons already assigned, you will not hesitate, I presume, gentlemen, to answer, NO.—Actuated by the same liberality of sentiment, I flatter myself, I hear you add, “ We are, indeed, convinced of the inefficacy of *our art* to cure most of the disorders of which you have treated ; and we confess the *leprosy* in particular to be a disorder so inveterate, that in general all we can do is to *palliate* it, and, at length, to give it up as *incurable*. This we never would have done, had we known with what ease and safety it might have been *extirpated*, even in its last and most desperate stages, by your modes and means of preparing and applying arbitrarily-medicated and heated water-baths, pumps, vaporous and dry baths, frictions, and moist and dry internal and external fumigations, both partial and universal.”

Still, however, should any doubts remain about the singular efficacy of my plan, after every *other* medical resource hath failed, let me beg, gentle-

men, that you will dispel those doubts by *attentively* READING THE FOLLOWING CASES, and STRICTLY ENQUIRING INTO THE TRUTH OF THEM.

CASE. I.

A gentleman, of a healthy and robust constitution, after riding hard, went, warm into a damp room, where he immediately drank off a tankard of ale, and continued in company with his friends two hours. During the first five days after, he was afflicted with a hoarseness, and with a dry cough; for which complaints a surgeon and apothecary bled him twice, and ordered him two ounces of Epsom-salts, but with no effect. On the sixth night, his body was tormented, as if stung with nettles, and pricked with pins; nor could he obtain a moment's ease. In the morning, his face, hands, arms, legs, and stomach, were full of dry, branny scabs; another surgeon being sent for, he was directed to take flour of brimstone, mixed with treacle, and rub the parts affected with olive oil twice a day. At the end of four weeks, a burning fever succeeded, accompanied with excruciating pains in his head. Farther advice being judged necessary, a physician was consulted. By cooling medicines, and repeated bleedings, the fever was in ten days consi-

derably diminished ; but the branny scabs began to extend themselves all over his body, and his appetite and sleep, bad from the beginning, grew still worse. Diaphoretic and anodyne medicines, with double doses of opium, were next prescribed. All the powers of medicine proving ineffectual, however, he was sent to Bath, where having used the cross-bath eight days, a great inflammation appeared on his face, with a burning heat and redness all over his body. He was now advised to desist from bathing ; and though he afterwards persevered for three months in the use of antimonial medicines, and of a milk and vegetable diet, yet the only benefit he experienced was a trifling abatement of the inflammation. He then went to Buxton, whence, having ineffectually followed the prescriptions of Dr. ——— for ten weeks, he returned home, and took a variety of *popular trash*. Having heard of several other *scorbutic* and *leprous* cases, in which I had surprisingly succeeded, even after they had been rendered desperate by medical mismanagement, he committed himself to my sole care. The consequence was, that, at the expiration of a *fortnight*, he was sensibly better, that, in *fourteen weeks more*, he left me **RADICALLY** cured ; and that he continues still to enjoy his wonted **HEALTH, ACTIVITY, and VIGOUR.**

CASE II.

The Rev. Dr. G. brought with him to England a *confirmed leprosy* of the moist kind, which had been of *seven years standing*, and become so malignant and excruciating, that he was obliged to change his under-garments and gloves five or six times in a day, and to take opium at night, if he hoped to obtain a moment's rest. It was not till he had consulted to no purpose the most eminent physicians of England and France, tried all the bathing-places and quack-nostrums of both countries, and even gone through *three regular salivations*, that he put himself under my care. To this he was induced by a gentleman, when despaired of by the faculty. By going through the agreeable and salutary operations proper for his case, the acrid, saline, and corrosive humours gradually became sweetened, the surface of his body, which had been totally excoriated, healed ; the capillary vessels united, the circulation and perspiration rendered free and regular ; and in nineteen weeks he left me in perfect health.

CASE III.

A lady, aged *eighty-five*, who placed herself under my care, told me, that for the last eleven years she had been in the hands of the faculty, for

a horrible branny scurf, with which she was covered from head to foot, and by which the juices and the very flesh of her body were almost dried up ; as was evident from the condition of her legs, her arms, and the whole surface of the skin. She added, that, continually tormented, and deprived of rest and appetite, of strength and spirits, she desired to die, rather than live under such a load of calamities ; and had, indeed, been abandoned, as hopeless, by the doctors. By going through my mild and agreeable operations, adapted to her disorder, age, and constitution, she left me, at the expiration of three months, totally free from complaints, her whole habit being perfectly cleansed, and she continued to enjoy perfect health.

CASE IV.

T. C. Esq. of a constitution naturally *scorbutic*, after having danced a whole night, went to sleep at the house of a friend ; where, through the *dampness of the sheets*, he was seized with an universal chill and tremor, like unto an ague, and could not obtain a minute's rest. A physician of York was applied to, who ordered him cathartic and sudorific medicines. These brought on an immoderate discharge by stool and sweat for two weeks, and rendered him exceedingly weak and

relaxed. Finding him deprived of appetite, and oppressed with a nausea, a pain in the bowels, and an itching over the whole ambit of the skin, his physician advised him to go to Scarborough, and to *bathe in the sea*. After seven immersions therein, the itching and other complaints being increased, and his skin covered with small, branny scales, he desisted. Advice was farther taken, and strictly observed, by him, both in York and London; but from the medicines prescribed at both places, being the strongest *sudorific* and *mercurial* preparations, he received essential injury, without experiencing the smallest diminution of his disorder. This, on the contrary, continued to harass him for *five years longer* with aggravated fury; and in a state of inexpressible misery he was brought to me, where, by going through the usual operations, he obtained a RADICAL cure in *thirteen weeks*. I have since received a letter from him, recommending two patients to my care, and informing me, that he continued to enjoy a state of uninterrupted health.

CASE V.

Mr. S. B. a reputable merchant, happening to sleep in a *damp bed*, was seized with a most violent pain in his back and hips, and continued in such

intolerable agony for near five weeks, that *fifty grains of the extract of opium*, taken every night, were not sufficient to procure him the least rest, or relief from pain. To these complaints were added an *universal itching* and *eruption*, which terminated in *large, branny scales*, and, for *two years*, continued to encrease, baffling the skill of the most experienced physicians; and, *when given over by the medical gentlemen* who attended him, he was recommended to me, and by my mild and admirable operations he was in less than *two months* restored to PERFECT HEALTH.

CASE VI.

Mr. C. being in a profuse sweat, went into the yard to refresh himself, washed his arms, and his face, with *cold water*. In less than two hours, he was attacked with a head-ach, and with pains all over his body, accompanied with an ague-fever, which obliged him to go to bed. He then sent for a surgeon, who bled him, and gave him some purgatives. He slept not the whole night, the head-ach and pains continuing, and his body being moreover tormented, as if millions of pins had been pricking him under the skin. In the morning, he was found in a high fever, with his face, arms, and hands, covered with a *dry scurf*.

The surgeon having bled him again, and given him cooling medicines, and oil of alder to be rubbed all over his body, in about three weeks the fever and the pains vanished ; but, alas ! a *dry lepra* was declared to be confirmed upon him. Though in the course of *seven years* he received the advice of the most eminent physicians, took loads of medicines, was *salivated twice*, and frequently *bathed in the sea*, and in the springs of Bath, now and then enjoying short intervals of *ease*, and consequently *hope*, yet his disorder became more and more inveterate. In the most wretched condition he was brought to my house, whence, after a regular course of operations, for *fifteen weeks*, he was discharged free from all complaints.

CASE VII.

A lieutenant of a ship, who, having contracted the *dry leprosy* in the West Indies, or been, as it was by some people *supposed* POISONED by some of the negroes, had the greatest part of his body covered with red, hard pimples, and his joints, particularly those of the hands, knees, and fingers, so chapped, that, with the least motion, the blood gushed out. To these complaints were added the mischiefs of *two salivations*, one at Barbadoes,

and one in London. He afterwards lived a whole year upon milk, bathed in the sea, and in fresh-water-baths, both warm and cold, and tried all the noted quack nostrums. In *fourteen weeks* after he was brought to my house, I had the happiness to discharge him in a state of *confirmed health*.

CASE VIII.

The son of D. S. Esq. a surgeon of the most distinguished abilities, and the most extensive fame, when at a boarding school in the country, caught cold; and, in consequence thereof, was seized with a head ach, a cough, a fever, and pains all over his body. The surgeon and apothecary of the school bled him, and administered to him several sorts of medicines; by the powers of which the fever and the pains ceased, but a scaly eruption appeared on his head, ears, legs, feet, and other parts, accompanied with a discharge of foetid, corrosive humours. For above three months, all the medicines and methods were employed, which the knowledge and experience of the above-mentioned gentleman could suggest, but to no purpose, unless it was to harrass the patient. It was then thought necessary to send for Mr. S. who, alarmed at the state of his son, and convinced of the peculiar efficacy of my plan,

from the numerous instances in which he had known it to be successful after every other medical effort had proved abortive, but particularly in those of a lady and her two daughters, with whom he had been intimately acquainted at my house,*

* Mr. J. a capital manufacturer in one of the first trading towns in the kingdom, after having been many years under the care of the ablest physicians, died at Bath of a leprosy. He left a widow and two daughters, the one fifteen, and the other seventeen, years of age, possessed of an immense fortune, but deeply afflicted, as well as the mother, with the same disorder. At an incredible expence, from the very infancy of the young ladies, the most distinguished physicians in Europe had been consulted, and every different *popular nostrum*, and bathing-place tried, but in vain. Such was their condition, when a physician and a surgeon of the same place, wrote to me, requesting an account of the cures I had performed in similar distempers. Those were numberless. I gave them, however, a rational representation of the simplicity, the safety and efficacy of my plan, in the cure of leprous disorders. In consequence thereof, Mrs. J. and her two daughters, resigned themselves to my management. On examining the condition of their skins, I found them, and particularly those of the daughters, covered with bumpy and inflamed scabs, and otherwise much deformed. Both the young ladies laboured likewise under an inveterate *obstruction*. By going through the usual operations, in a *month*, the acrid and saline humours having been gradually dulcified, the stamina of their skins presented the most promising signs of an advancing cure. At the end of *nine weeks*, the perspiration of all the three was rendered free and regular, the obstruction of both the daughters were opened, and the complexion of all began to display the vivid bloom of renovated youth and beauty. At the expiration of *five months* in the whole, the circulatory, secretory, and excretory functions being re-established, the health of each was COMPLETELY restored. Anxious, however, to secure the permanent enjoyment of such a blessing, they staid with me a month longer; when, convinced that there was not even the *possibility* of a relapse, they returned home, in the full possession of a happiness which they had despaired ever more to enjoy in this world.

brought the young gentleman to me. On his arrival, he appeared a real object of pity ; his ears, and a part of his leg, being on the point of mortifying, and the skin, in different parts of his body, so excoriated that he was obliged to be shifted several times a day, and to receive a change of bed-linen every night. By going through the usual operations, however, he was found, *within a fortnight*, to be in a fair way of recovery ; and, at the expiration of *three months*, I restored him to his worthy parent in sound health.

OBSERVATION.

The ITCH and the LEPROSY proceeding from the same causes, and the latter being frequently produced by the former, I judge it unnecessary to class them under separate heads. Like the *lepra*, the *itch* is a foul, contagious disorder, the effect of certain sharp, saline humours, generated by a *scorbutic*, a ———, or a *scorbutico* ——— taint, whether hereditary or acquired. Those humours, driven from the mass of the blood and lymph into the miliary glands,* stagnate in, and corrode,

* These glands are, in great numbers, *interspersed throughout the substance of the cutis, or skin, and interwoven with the pyramidal papillæ thereof*. Each of them is furnished with a branch of an artery, vein, and nerve ; as also with a proper excretory duct, through which the fluid matter, *secreted from the blood in the substance of the glands is excreted through the pores of the cuticle.*—

those glands ; and, penetrating thence to the surface of the skin, they occasion in the patient that disagreeable *pruritus* which forms the *criterion* of the disease, and from which arises its *name*. Like the *lepra* also, it is of two sorts, the one *humid*, the other *dry*. From the experiments of numberless authors, who have minutely examined, with proper glasses, globules of the matter picked out of the pustules of itchy persons, it appears,

This is universally acknowledged to be the just definition of the *glandulæ miliaris* ; and yet Sir John Pringle has taken some pains to show, that the *ITCH* is *not* a *MILIARY ERUPTION*. I should be glad, however, if the learned gentlemen, would explain how it is possible, that *any cutaneous eruption whatever* can take place, which is not to all intents and purposes a *miliary one* ; such *eruption* being, in fact, nothing more than an *effect, more or less violent*, of the *previous corrosion* of the glands so named. The same author gives it as *his opinion* (and, in general, it *has*, and *ought to have*, great weight) that the *ITCH*, a disease *sui generis*, has no affinity with either the *SCURVY* or the *LEPROSY*, and was “ unknown, at least uncommon, among the ancients ;” but his arguments on this head being *conjectural merely*, and the conclusions he draws from them *erroneous* as well as *uncertain*, every judicious practitioner, will continue to pronounce those disorders to have the *closest affinity with each other*, till it shall be made appear, that they do not *all* proceed from an acrid, saline, and corrosive humour, which produces this or that *external effect*, according to the malignance of the said humour, the habit of the patient, and other contingencies.—It is, indeed, a melancholy consideration, that the science of physic, which of all others, ought to be the most exempted from *false theories*, is the most encumbered with them, and that the modern professors of the healing art, seduced by the dazzling ambition of being handed down to posterity, as the enlightened authors of *new systems*, are perpetually led into the ridiculous predicament of making *DISTINCTIONS*, in which, strictly examined, there are no *DIFFERENCES*.

that the *immediate* cause of the disease is to be ascribed to the biting of certain little *animalculæ* in the skin ; by means whereof, some portion of the serum oozing out through the small apertures of the cutis, little watery bladders are formed, within which the said *animalculæ* continuing to gnaw, the patient is irresistibly impelled to scratch the part affected. In doing this, however, he is sure to encrease the disorder, by breaking, not only the little pustules, and the skin, but even some minute blood-vessels also, and thus creating scabs and crusty sores.

From these facts we may perceive *how it is*, that the itch becomes so infectious ; because nothing can be more easy than for the *animalculæ* in question, which are of an uncommon swiftness, and which infest the patient on the surface of the skin, as well as under the cuticula, to pass from one body to another by the simplest contact. We may farther perceive *why it is*, that this disease, after it has, *to all appearance*, been cured by unctions of mercury or sulphur (especially of the former, which only serve to irritate those sharp and saline humours whereby it had been *primarily* produced) so often *returns*, and produces not only the LEPROSY, but every *other* disorder we have mentioned as the offspring of the SCURVY ; since, however, effectually the noxious *animalculæ* (allowing them *actually to exist*, and

to have the *very effect attributed to them*) may have been destroyed by such unctions, it by no means follows, that the eggs thereof, *laid*, if it may be so expressed, in the *nests of the skin*, have also been destroyed.* No return of the malady *can* follow, unless from a *fresh* infection, after the patient has had recourse to my salutary operations.† These, in extirpating both the primary and secondary causes of the contagion, extirpate likewise all the mischiefs that flow from it, even

* SIR JOHN PRINGLE says, "I have heard of more than one instance in the hospital" (and, for my part, I have actually known an hundred such in my own practice) "of men undergoing a complete salivation for the cure of the ———, without being cured of the Itch."—Could SIR JOHN have *seen* the patients he had thus *heard of*, some months afterwards, he would have found them (unless effectual methods had been employed to prevent it) labouring under the calamities of a confirmed Leprosy, or of some other foul malignant disorder, of which the Itch had been little more than the seed.

† "For six hundred years," according to BACCIIUS, "the Leprosy, the Itch, and other foul eruptions, so common with us, were seldom seen in Rome, owing to their frequent use of medicated water and vapour-baths, &c. When attacked with any complaints," adds he "these were their specifics; for by these the superfluous, and otherwise morbid, humours were driven from the center to the circumference, and the very seeds of diseases eliminated out of their bodies."—Read too, an author still more modern, strongly recommends baths, fumigations, and frictions; "because," observes he, "they dissolve obstructions, promote insensible perspiration, regulate the circulation, and wash off from the external surface of the body, that sediment of the sweat, which, according to SERENUS, when detained, makes the body rough and scabby."

when most aggravated by the above-mentioned poisonous mineral; a truth, which I have undeniably manifested in every such case that has come under my care. As the itch, however, is a disorder attended with circumstances peculiarly filthy, to dwell upon them would not be less disagreeable to me, than it would be offensive to my readers. For the present, therefore, I shall content myself with the insertion of only TWO REMARKABLE CASES, and those blended in one, of an

INVETERATE ITCH.

Captain S. and his lady, both of plethoric habits, and of rigid fibres, were for *five years* subject to the most tormenting effects of this disorder. In summer, it was accompanied with eruptions, which on the body were infinitely small, but on the joints more large. In winter, it disappeared, leaving, however, the head, and the whole nervous system, greatly affected. To an inveterate *itching* succeeded an intolerable *pricking* under the whole *surface of the skin*, a loss of *appetite and rest*, with other complaints the consequence thereof. In vain, even from the beginning, had they taken the most celebrated medicines, attentively prescribed for them by the most eminent physicians, and indiscriminately administered

to them by quacks not less eminent. In vain too had each of them gone through a *regular salivation*, and bathed both in the *sea*, and in the springs of *Bath*; from which place they at length returned almost distracted. Having casually read in the public papers accounts of several remarkable cures I had performed of the most inveterate scorbutic and leprous disorders, they came to me, and in *nine weeks*, freed from every complaint, were restored by me to their pristine health, strength, and cheerfulness; blessings which they still enjoy, with the additional satisfaction of having since had THREE FINE, HEALTHY CHILDREN.

OBSERVATION.

The TINEA, or SCALD-HEAD, bearing also a near relation to the LEPRO, and being, as well as the ITCH, a frequent forerunner of that distemper, I proceed, on the same principle, to take a cursory view of a complaint, which, however *disagreeable*, is too *frequent* in grown people, as well as in children, and, from the present system of medical mismanagement, too *fatal* also to both.—Like the *leprosy* and the *itch*, the *scald-head* is of two sorts, a *dry one*, and a *moist one*; like them too it is *infectious*, and primarily produced by the hereditary, or acquired, sharp and saline humours above-

mentioned, which, preying on the miliary glands, destroy their texture. Often affecting the face, as well as the head, in the first stage of the disorder those parts are covered with a white and dry scurfy, or scaly, substance ; in the second, the subjacent flesh appears granulated ; and in the third, ulcers are produced. In all of these stages, *mercury* is usually prescribed by the faculty, both *internully* and *externally* ; but in none of them, as I have already shown in every other disease, proceeding from either a scorbutic, a ———, or a scorbutico ——— cause. can this *wretched medicine* do more than *patch up* the disease, and produce innumerable mischiefs to the constitution, which *otherwise* would never have existed. This I have invariably experienced from the infancy of my practice, and could prove *ad infinitum* ; but as the disorder under consideration is hardly less offensive than the one we last dismissed, I shall only produce two instances, in which, rendered incurable by any other means, it was with ease, with safety, and with efficacy, ERADICATED, through the use of my operations.

TWO CASES OF SCALD HEADS.

CASE I.

The son of J. S. Esq. had been afflicted from two to nine years of age with a confirmed scald-

head, which first made its appearance on his being dipped in cold water with his head foremost. His muscular and nervous fibres having been rendered to the last degree *flabby*, and *relaxed*, to his former complaint were added an *universal itching*, a *shortness of breath*, and a *cough*, which having baffled *mercurial unctions*, and all other medicines and methods, he was recommended to my care, and by going regularly through the proper operations, he was in *seven weeks* (with his sister, who was about a year older, and who had been put under my care, at the same time, for *newly* the same complaints) discharged in PERFECT HEALTH.

CASE II.

A clergyman of a scorbutic constitution, had been for *seventeen years* harrassed and tormented with this disorder, the malignant effects of which, having extended to his *forehead*, *ears*, and *eyes*, defied the powers of *lotions*, *blisters*, *fomentations*, *sea-bathing*, and *medicines* of all sorts, particularly *mercurial*. The cause of this horrid complaint was attributed to the having applied to his head the comb of a girl, who had been *born with a scald head*. From the recommendation of his vicar, he put himself under my care ; when, by

going through the mild and gentle operations adapted to his case, he left me, in *two months*, RADICALLY cured ; and, as I have lately had the pleasure to learn by letters from the above-mentioned vicar, as well as from himself, *he has ever since continued* FREE FROM ALL COMPLAINTS WHATEVER.

From a discussion of these disorders a transition is natural to that of the

SMALL - POX.

Authors do not differ less about the *origin* of this distemper, than that of the *leprosy*, and of the ————. To repeat their *conjectures* on the subject, therefore, would be superfluous, they might amuse the reader, but could give him no just information. More unanimous in treating of its *cause*, they allow the *small-pox*, as well as the *measles*, to be produced by a general *impurity of the blood*, and *corruption of the juices* ; with this difference, that in the former disease, the peccant matter is more thick, and viscous, in the latter, more subtil, hot, and bilious, but that no person can ever be afflicted with either of them *twice*.

With DOLEUS also they agree, that “ the offensive humours by which the *small-pox* is gene-

"rated *came into the world with us*, and lie hid,
 "till they find an opportunity of bursting through
 "the excretory ducts;" nor do they deny the
 rational position, the enlightened conclusion, of
 DRAKE, when he observes, "This disorder, not
 "being found in any permanent, habitual, dis-
 "position, has its period within a limited time,
 "necessary for the expulsion of the peccant mat-
 "ter through the pores of the skin; it is by an
 "accidental fever, that the salt serum in the
 "blood, predominant in this disease, is thrown out
 "to the glands of the skin; which being done
 "in great quantities, it there acts much in the
 "same manner as in the ARABIAN LEPROSY.
 "When the blood, however, is despumated, the
 "scales dry, and fall off; for which reason it
 "would be no great impropriety to call the
 "SMALL-POX a TEMPORARY, CRITICAL, LEPRO."

Happy were it for the rising generation, and it
 would save parents from many a heart-felt pang,
 if, no longer misled by medical advisers; who,
 as it is their *interest*, make it their *business*, to
 deceive them, they would duly attend to, and
 profit by, these important hints. They would
 then see the absolute necessity of allowing chil-
 dren, *however young*, to reap the benefit of my
 water and vapour-baths; fumigations, and fric-
 tions, medicated, heated, and administered, ac-
 cording to the age, constitution, and vital fire.

of the patient, to the state of the atmosphere, and every other critical circumstance.

By these operations, salutary to the nurse herself, and rendered so mild that the child at her breast might partake of them with pleasure, the skin would be cleared from all impurities, and the valves of the excretory and absorbent vessels freed from all obstructions. In consequence thereof the acrid and saline excrements of the *third concoction* (which are ten times more important than all the other excrements united, and which, if retained, disturbing the animal œconomy, are, sooner or later, productive of the worst diseases) would obtain a free and regular discharge through their ONLY PROPER CHANNELS, THE PORES OF THE SKIN; and, at the same time, the mass of the blood and lymph would acquire, through the restored attraction of the said absorbent vessels, those diluting and dulcifying qualities, which are essential to the very existence of the human frame, and which could, in no effectual degree, be obtained by any other means *. Thus would most of the diseases be prevented, to which children, and even grown persons of both sexes, are subject. Thus

* That these blessings would follow, I have the authority of Sydenham, of Boerhaave, of Huxham, of Ball, and, indeed, of every other writer of eminence, who has duly considered the subject.

would health and vigour be preserved. Thus also would the *small-pox* be rendered infinitely more favourable than *otherwise* it hath yet been known; nor would the patient (often in a state of infancy, and unable even to lisp out the anguish he innocently suffers) be any longer afflicted with that shuddering, chilness, fever, vomiting, and head-ache; with that pain in the stomach, belly, and sides; or with that dullness, sleepiness, restlessness, and looseness, which, with other symptoms, too frequently attend that disorder, whether produced *naturally*, or by *inoculation*, and baffle the utmost skill and attention of the most experienced physicians.

What satisfaction, what joy, must it not give to every benevolent breast, when it is found, that by means so safe, so easy, and so agreeable, the contagion in question is freed from that *inflammation* which has hitherto rendered it the bane of the human race! that, by the same means, every *particle* which has the smallest tendency thereto, and which, as Sydenham and many other writers have observed, as well as Doleus, *we bring with us from the womb*, is digested, secreted, and expelled, not more *imperceptibly* than *effectually* through its proper channels!—Denied these blessed effects, the patient, alas! subject to eruptions, to pains, and to various other disorders, which make their appearance in

this or that shape, according to his constitution, and the disposition of his humours, is generally doomed, not to an *immediate death*, which would be preferable, but to an *age of misery*.

DISORDERS

Produced by the

SMALL-POX,

After it hath been

CONTRACTED IN THE NATURAL WAY,

Or improperly treated by

UNSKILFUL INOCULATORS.

CASE I.

A gentleman of a cold constitution and weak nerves, was, from the *age of nine*, when he contracted the *natural small-pox* (neither *previous* nor *subsequent* to which he had been at all purified) subject to an *universal eruption*, which at length, affecting with particular virulence the inside of each thigh, and the scrotum, tormented him to distraction. During *fourteen years*, he had been alternately attended by several phy-

sicians and surgeons. Their prescriptions consisted, *inwardly*, of calomel and rhubarb, purgative potions, decoctions of sarsaparilla, and a milk and vegetable diet; *outwardly*, of white camphorated ointment, Goulard's vegeto-mineral water, bathing in the sea in summer and autumn, and at Bath in winter. Though by these remedies he obtained some relief, he still, however, laboured under an oppression at the stomach, a heaviness all over his body, a head-ache, a lowness of spirits, and an oppressive privation of rest and appetite, which rendered his life more and more burthensome to him. In his *twenty-fourth year*, a tumour appeared on his groin, when it was agreed to have him rubbed with *mercurial ointment*, and put into a gentle *salivation*. In the second week, having caught cold, a shivering succeeded, with excruciating pains in his bowels, and in all his joints, which, added to the tumour, and to his former complaints, rendered him completely miserable.—In this condition, being unable to walk across the room, or to swallow any solid nourishment, and perceiving his medical attendants embarrassed to determine what should be farther done to *save his life*, he came to my house, accompanied with his lady and his nurse; though in direct opposition to his medical attendants. The patient was, indeed, in a lamentable state. By going

through my operations, he found himself, at the expiration of *five months*, RADICALLY CURED of all his complaints, and has ever since enjoyed PERFECT HEALTH.

C A S E II.

The only son of a gentleman, of a tender and weak constitution, was afflicted for *six years* after his recovery from the small-pox (for which he had been *inoculated*, but improperly treated, both *before* and *after*) with a corrosive humour in his eyes, and with a moist, itchy eruption all over his body. He was attended *for three years* by doctors and surgeons; he became, however, more and more weakened and emaciated; the eruptions encreased with double fury; and he was seized with a cough, and a shortness of breath. In this condition he was sent to Bristol-wells under the care of Dr. ———, who, at the expiration of *two months*, being convinced the drinking of the waters of that place had not been productive of the least benefit, either with or without medicines, advised him to retire into the country, to live upon milk only, and to take what exercise he could on horse-back; which rules he regularly observed for *five months*, but still in vain. His parents, full of anxiety for

their *only child*, had no sooner heard of the amazing efficacy of my operations than they committed him to my care; and by regularly administering to him fumigations and frictions, proper for his disorder, he was discharged, at the end of *fifteen weeks*, in PERFECT HEALTH, WHICH HE STILL ENJOYS.

C A S E III.

ATTENDED ALSO WITH A TOTAL BLINDNESS.

Mr. B——, brought to my house his grandson, aged *fourteen*, who, after the small-pox in his *eighth year*, had been *totally deprived of sight for above five years*, though, during the whole of that time, successively attended by the most celebrated physicians and oculists in England and France. Judging, both from reason and experience, after I had examined the state of the young gentleman's eyes, and observed great faults in the circulatory, secretory, and excretory functions, that those faults, and consequently the blindness, proceeded from his humours having been *viscous, acrimonious, and scorbutic, from his infancy*, I concluded as I could remove the *cause*, the *effect* would cease; that I could restore the youth *to sight*, which I did. In *nine weeks*, to the admiration of all

who knew the circumstances of the case, the cure was compleated by my means; and the young gentleman enjoyed GOOD HEALTH, and the PERFECT USE OF HIS EYES.

OF THE
COLIC;

OF THE
NATURE AND EFFECTS OF THE BILE;
AND OF
DISORDERS COMMONLY CALLED BILIOUS.

The COLIC obtains its name from the part principally affected in that disorder, namely, the COLON*; in the folds of which, the gross excre-

* The *colon* is the second of the thick intestines, in length eight or nine hands, and wider than either the *ilium* or the *rectum*. It begins where the *ilium* ends, namely, in the cavity of the *os ilium* on the right side; whence, ascending by the kidney on the same side, it passes under the concave side of the liver. To this it is sometimes tied, as likewise to the gall-bladder, which gives it in that place a yellowish hue. It then runs under the bottom of the stomach to the spleen in the left side, to which it is likewise knit; from thence it turns down to the left kidney; and passing, in the form of an S, it terminates at the upper part of the *os sacrum* in the *rectum*.

ments are retained, till they are formed, and rendered fit to pass through the RECTUM. When this retention is of too long continuance, the said excrements, having become hardened, cannot be ejected; and the wind, being thereby pent up in the *colon*, is forced back into the *ilium*, the *jejunum*, and the *duodenum*, which, however different in their formations and functions, compose, with the *rectum*, only *one bowel*, but are highly instrumental in the production of that severe, gnawing pain—that always dangerous, and often fatal, distemper, called the COLIC.

Physicians distinguish this malady into several sorts, as the *bilious*, the *flatulent*, the *nephritic*, the *convulsive*, and the *hysteric colic*. They are, however, often confounded; and, indeed, the two latter are little more than subdivisions of the three former.—The *bilious colic* is common to persons who, of temperaments inclining to *choleric*, are prone to the *irascible passions*, and possessed of *superior sensibility*. It is generally attended with a vomiting, a head-ache, and a diarrhœa, either unitedly or separately, as also with a spasmodic constriction, whereby the bile, being impeded in its natural descent into the intestines, and repelled into the habit, communicates also a yellow colour to the skin.—The *flatulent colic*, still more frequent, perhaps, is accompanied with an inflation of the belly, which

is sometimes so violent as to occasion a rupture in the region of the navel. This complaint proceeds *immediately* either from a refrigeration of the abdomen, or feet, or from an indulgence, whether casual or habitual, in the use of eatables and drinkables of *cold, windy, and viscous* qualities. As numbers, who are subject to the *gravel and stone*, are likewise subject to the disorder before us, so we often see the *flatulent colic* mistaken for the *nephritic* one. It is to be observed, however, that if the face appear *cachectic*, and if, with a tightness and pain in the back, there be a pain also in the intestines, attended with an oppressive anxiety of mind, and with a costiveness subject to a return on every slight occasion, the disease may with safety be pronounced, not *renal* but *intestinal*. By means thereof, the blood, prevented from circulating readily and freely, stagnates in the bowels, of which it distends and tears the membranes, being often even denied a passage through the hæmorrhoidal vessels.—To these effects a *spasmodic constriction*, similar to the *bilious one*, being added*, the

* It is at this stage of the colic, whether *bilious* or *flatulent*, that the ILIAC PASSION sometimes supervenes. Of all the disorders that afflict human nature *this*, while it lasts, is perhaps the most tremendous. It consists in an ejection of gross matter by vomit, accompanied with a swelling and tension of the abdomen, an intense pain, and a total constipation of the bowels. Authors in general ascribe the *imme-*

whole nervous system suffers ; and it is then styled a *convulsive colic*. If the stagnation alluded to proceed from a *suppression of the hæmorrhoids*, the pain in the intestines is exquisite, and said to be *hæmorrhoidal*. If, on the contrary, affecting the other sex, it be occasioned by an *irregularity in their periods*, gripes are produced, from the repulsion of the blood into the intestinal region ; and *those gripes* are called an *hysteric colic*, of which I shall have occasion to speak at large in its *proper place*.

As *bile* produces *cholera*, as *cholera* produces *melancholy*, and as *MELANCHOLY* is the immediate pa-

diate causes of the iliac passion to an irregularity, or inversion, of the peristaltic motion of the guts ; to an *increased* hardness of the gross excrement ; to an inflammation of the intestines ; to their engagement in the scrotum, as sometimes happens in hernias ; or to their twisting, and entering within one another.—Such are the effects of this calamity, that the patient is often known to return not only *suppositories* and *clysters*, but even what he ought to have discharged by *stool*, through the mouth.—By the methods *commonly practised* it is hardly possible to cure it. All that can be said of the loads of *quick-silver*, and even *musket-balls*, greedily swallowed for that purpose, is, as BONET, DOVER TISSOT, and almost all other judicious authors, have observed, and as experience hath wofully confirmed, that they rarely do *any good*, and often do a *great* deal of harm ; nor is it denied, that medicated baths and fumigations, with the addition of frictions, *skilfully* administered, are an *almost certain* remedy even in the *worst cases*. *Unskilfully* administered, however, they are *fatal*.

rent of that DESPAIR which rages in England with a peculiar, though hardly-resisted fury, it may not be improper briefly to explain the nature and effects of that important fluid the BILE; from an overflow, a suppression, or a corruption, of which, or from some fault in its quality or action, the effect of that corruption, those evils are supposed to owe their origin.

The bile, then, is a juice naturally bitter and yellow, separated from the blood in the liver, collected in the gall-bladder, and thence propelled, through its proper duct, into the *duodenum*; which is the first of the small guts, being that wherein the chylication is compleated. So essential is the bile, indeed, to the due temperature of all the other fluids, that to the said overflow, suppression, or corruption, experienced authors have not hesitated to ascribe *most of the diseases incident to the human body*. Certain it is, that, were it not for those *acrid, saline, and viscous humours*, which always more or less prevail as a *scorbutic*, a ——— or a *scorbutico*, ——— taint is more or less predominant, no such corruption *could exist*, accompanied at least, with many of the calamities we daily witness from them. In certain constitutions, rendered particularly *active by NATURE*, and *MALIGNANT by the ERRORS in the GENERAL PRACTICE OF TREATING THEM*, those humours, in *vitiating the bile*, produce, beside colic com-

plaints, oppressive flatulences, nauseas, diarrhœas, dysenteries, convulsions, fevers, and a number of other distempers, both acute and chronical, which proceed from *obstructions*;—those *fatal* obstructions, which the learned of all ages have declared to be at once the *principal sources* and the *principal effects* of the SCURVY, and consequently, beyond dispute, *the fundamental cause also*, with those already assigned, of the almost unexampled ravages in this island of the disorders under consideration.*

When *thus vitiated*, the bile, from a *yellow*, assumes sometimes a *greenish* hue, like verdegreafe, sometimes a *palish* one, like the yolk of an egg; and to render it corrupt, especially if the habit be deeply infected with either of the above-mentioned taints, a *fit of intemperance*, or of *violent passion*, is sufficient. Not unoften likewise, from an aggravation of the *same causes*, becoming black, and degenerating, as I have observed, into what is called *choler*, it corrodes, burns, and consumes wherever it goes; occasioning, at the same

* So thoroughly was the great VAN SWIETEN convinced of the *universal mischiefs*, flowing from obstructions, that, in his Commentaries on the Aphorisms of BOERHAAVE, he observes, “ All the functions depend on a free passage of the fluids through the vessels; and *one* obstruction, when formed, and interrupting the free passages, is capable of disordering *all the functions*, as well as *each distinct function*. And, since each *disordered function is a disease*, as many diseases may proceed from an obstruction, as there are functions to be *disordered*.”

time, violent pains, fermentations, inflammations, nodous, schirrous, and fistulous tumours, ulcers, cancers, gangrenes, and even mortifications.

Even in its *unvitrated* state, when the evacuation of the bile, whether upward or downward, is *too great*, the chyfication is deprived of its main instrument; and thereby the necessary concoctions and secretions being prevented, as also the expulsion of the gross excrements, and even of the inadhesive humours, *through their proper channels*, a weakness, a paleness, a cough, and a propensity to swooning, are produced. In the same state, when, obstructed in its passage, it is, on the other hand, *too small*, among other complaints, equally alarming, a *jaundice* is the consequence.*

Such are the different sorts of COLICS. Such,

* The *jaundice* is defined a disease consisting in a suffusion of the bile, and a rejection thereof to the surface of the body, whereby the whole exterior habit is discoloured. Of this malady there are three sorts. The *first*, properly styled the *jaundice*, is the *yellow* one; and it is produced either by the too great exaltation, or abundance, of a *yellow bile* in the mass of the blood; by an obstruction in the glands of the liver, which prevents the due separation of the gall from the other juices; or by a stoppage of the biliary ducts, which impedes the mixture of the blood with the aliment in the intestines.—The *second*, called the *black jaundice*, proceeds from a mixture of the *same bile* with the acids formed in the temperature.—The *third*, bordering on *green*, takes its rise also from a mixture, though different, of the bile with acids. It is usually termed the *chlorosis*, or *green-sickness*; a distemper, of which, as being peculiar to the fair sex, I shall amply speak in my “Treatise of Female Disorders.”

too, are the properties and effects of that **BILIOUS JUICE**, which, in its *natural state*, is so necessary to the due secretion and excretion of all the other juices, and which, when either *corrupted, obstructed, or rendered redundant*, by the predominance of an *acid, saline, and viscous* humour, the effect of either a **SCORBUTIC**, a ———, or a ——— taint, becomes the immediate source of innumerable evils;—evils, from which, while their *primary cause* is suffered to exist, *no person* is exempted; from which, nevertheless, as I shall prove, *no medicine, no method*, recommended by the modern practice, can afford more than a *temporary* relief, and that with a still greater probability of aggravating them; but of which, as I shall likewise prove, and, what is more *demonstrate, as usual by FACTS*, every seed, root and branch, may with ease, with safety, and with efficacy, be **ERADICATED** by my *innocent, yet powerful, my mild, and even luxurious*, operations.

In the treatment of colics, and of bilious complaints in general, beside the **BLEEDINGS**, the **CATHARTICS**, the **SUDORIFICS**, &c. &c. whose *negative efficacy*, and *positive danger*, in other cases, I have already, I trust, clearly manifested, the *favourite remedies* are, **EMETICS** to purge the stomach upward, **AROMATICS** to warm and com-

fort it, when *thus purged**, CLYSTERS to loosen, and also comfort, the belly†, anodynes to give ease, and opiates to give sleep‡. These several

* To this class belong most cardiac, cephalic, and carminative remedies. As TISSOT, however, on the same grounds as above, justly remarks, “The consequence of all such *heating medicines*, is to leave behind the *seed*, the *principle*, of some *slow, chronical disease*, which, *encreasing insensibly*, *breaks out at length*, and *finally procures the patient that death for which he has even WISHED in order to PUT AN END TO HIS TEDIOUS SUFFERINGS.*”

† The truths advanced by BONNER on this subject are among a multitude of other things equally conclusive in my favour, this venerable writer observes, “When clysters are given, they frequently ascend not, because the *colon* is stepped by the tension of the wind; and it often happens, that when *several clysters* have been given, they *stay behind*, and *almost suffocate.*”—He adds, “If the complaint be *above the navel*, clysters, *at any rate*, do little good; and as *all diseases of the intestines* are worse above the navel than below it, so when clysters are given, while the OBSTRUCTIONS are in the *upper parts*, they come but a small way at the matter, and bring these inconveniences; first *they deaden the expulsive faculty*, and bring it so to pass, that the patient can never go to stool, unless provoked to it; secondly, the *sudden impulsion* of the matter of the clysters, if they be either too hot or too cold, *injures the temperature of the intestines*; thirdly, *no clyster can be given, but much wind will be given with it.*”—More authorities on this head would be superfluous to any reader, who possessed of the smallest acquaintance with the conformation, and mutual action of the intestines, is capable also of discriminating *where* the disorder is seated, and *how* it has been occasioned.—Is this knowledge, this discernment to be expected from *apothecaries and old women*?—No.—Let physicians of the most approved skill, then, be alone entrusted with the prescription of clysters.

‡ If anodynes and opiates are productive of fatal consequences, from the hands of the most *experienced* of the *faculty*, what must they be, daily as they are prescribed by the most *inexperienced*, the most rude and illiterate of the vulgar?—It were well if, when the patient is found INCURABLE by the *common expedients*, they had no worse consequence than to make him *die easy*. By giving him an

palliative intentions they may answer. *If persevered in, however,* it matters little whether they do, or do not, answer them; for to the noblest constitutions, at one time or other, *such perseverance* is a certain ban. What, indeed, can be expected, when the CAUSE of a disease has been left in *statu quo*, but that the EFFECTS must burst forth anew with a POISON MORE POISONOUS STILL?

With every *argument* in my favour, that natural reason may suggest, with every *proof* in my support, that unprejudiced enquiry may demand, it remains for me to shew from the *irresistible* testimonies of the first medical writers, confirmed by my own experience, of a most extensive practice,

effectual ease, and an *effectual sleep*, they might then, indeed, in *one sense*, be styled an EFFECTUAL BLESSING.—The misfortune is, however, that among other *tedious* as well as *alarming* complaints, they throw many patients, as TISSOT declares, “ INTO HECTIC FEVERS.”—The misfortune also is, according to the most enlightened English physicians, with QUINCY at their head, that “ when the operation of opium is over, the pain, and other symptoms, *which it had for a time abated*, RETURN; and generally with GREATER VIOLENCE THAN BEFORE.” It is generally, (adds the last-mentioned author,) attended likewise with a slow, but strong and full pulse, a dryness of the mouth, a redness, and light itching of the skin; and followed by a degree of nausea, a difficulty of respiration, lowness of the spirits, and a weak languid pulse. Instead of producing rest, it sometimes occasions great anxiety, vomiting, &c. Those who have been accustomed to its use, upon leaving it off, are seized with great lowness and languor, as well as anxiety; which complaints are *relieved* by having again recourse to opium, and in some measure, to wine, or spirituous liquors. In a word, OPiates procure, at best, but a TEMPORARY RELIEF.”—Who is there that would not prefer an *immediate death* to a *lingering wretched existence* retained by means like these?—

for almost THIRTY YEARS, how far MY METHOD of treating the disorders in question, different from the PALLIATIVE ONE now in vogue, is calculated FINALLY to extirpate them on a SAFE, an EASY, and EFFECTUAL PLAN.

To cite one half of the authorities by which I was enabled at first to *form*, afterwards to *introduce*, and at length to *perfect*, that plan, it would require *volumes*. I shall not, therefore, have recourse to more than two or three quotations, and those selected from the like number of writers now before me; writers, who, not less revered for their integrity as MEN, than for their abilities as PHYSICIANS, are among the acknowledged ORNAMENTS OF THE HEALING ART.

RIVERIUS says, “ In that excruciating disorder the colic, when *clysters*, *carminatives*, and *discutients* avail not, remedies of *more efficacy* must be employed, such as *emollient baths*, *fumigations*, &c.”—This doctrine has been handed down from the days of GALEN; who, with BAGLIVI, PARCEL, and many other subsequent writers, have strongly recommended, “ emollient baths as the *best* remedy for habitual colics.”—WILLIS farther declares, “ Such baths not only greatly contribute to mitigate the pain, but to *remove the cause* of the *disorder*.”—For the same purposes they are also highly extolled by LE DRAN; and by DREWITZIUS, who affirms, “ There is nothing more

effectual against the *scorbutic cholic*.”—SHAW, and after him BROOKE, have made it incontestibly appear, that, “When the colic *continues to rage and to torment the patient*, bathing is an immediate palliative, as well as a *most efficacious cure* ;” that besides, “when it is accompanied with vomiting and other cruel effects, the *happiest effects* are derived even from half-baths, *after every other expedient has been tried in vain*.”—HUXHAM says, “after I had tried bleedings, opiates, clysters, vomits, and many other remedies for the colic and gout, to no purpose, I found sudorifics and fomentations, applied warm to the belly and abdomen, *serviceable*.” He adds, “A much happier effect, however, may be derived from an emollient semi-cupium, or half-bath, in which the patient is placed up to his navel ; and I have often seen the most violent *nephritic* and other tormenting pains removed by the use of *such baths only*.”—In speaking of *convulsions*, and *tortured bowels*, PLOMER observes, “People find great relief in artificial baths of emollient and anti-scorbutic herbs ;” a fact, supported by the venerable testimony of HIPPOCRATES himself, who, on all occasions, the strenuous advocate of the principles on which my system is established, declares, “In whatever parts the pains invade us, they should be treated with emollient baths, fumigations, and frictions.”—HOFFMAN likewise

has established it as an invariable maxim, that “warm bathing cures all such distempers as proceed from a contraction of the parts of the lower belly. Of this kind,” says he, “are pains, *in the intestines, gripings, violent convulsive colics, heavy pains, and contractions, occasioned by the stone in the kidneys, and attended with suppression of urine, costiveness, &c.* in all which cases the warm bath is *eminently serviceable.*”—After enumerating the common attendants of the BILIOUS COLIC, the same author observes, “If it is not removed *in time*, it terminates in ILIAC PASSION.—*In this most dreadful disorder,*” he adds, in concurrence with POTTER, and with many other learned physicians, beside those above-mentioned “*when all other medicines and methods have failed, recourse must be had to emollient baths and fumigations; by which INNOCENT, but POWERFUL, remedy, I have myself several times PREVENTED the ILIAC PASSION, and RADICALLY CURED the most INVETERATE COLICS.*”

If such were the blessings derived from the use of medicated baths, fumigations, and frictions, while yet the art of preparing and administering them was enveloped in clouds of darkness and uncertainty, what must they be now, when, by the introduction and establishment of my discoveries, that art hath, to the inexpressible happiness of thousands, who would otherwise have long since

mingled with the dust, been clearly brought to light?—Struck dumb with confusion at the question, in vain shall we expect an answer to it from the body of the faculty. Blameless would they be, in some measure, indeed, if they could with even a *shadow of probability* alledge ignorance, or *colour of argument* invalidate the authenticity of the facts above stated. On *no pretence* then can they justify their present *tampering* system;—a system, which, as I shall farther manifest by the *few annexed cases*, is hardly less replete with mischiefs to their *unhappy patients*, than was, of old, the *fabled Box of PANDORA* to the world at large.

CASE I.

A gentleman of a *scorbutic* constitution, and many years afflicted with the effects of an *ill cured* ———, for which he had taken great quantities of *mercury*, in every different form, was seized with an excruciating pain, sometimes in the lower belly, and sometimes in the stomach; sometimes, too, according to the state of the weather, for the continuance of three or four hours, and sometimes of little more than a quarter of an hour; but always accompanied with a flatulent swelling, and with a discharge of bile

more or less green or yellow. In this melancholy state he languished for *nine years*, attended successively by several physicians, who, among other things, prescribed for him bleedings, purging potions, vomits, clysters, and opiates; from even double doses of which last, every night, he could hardly obtain a moment's rest, or respite from pain. At length, even with all his other medicines, laudanum was ordered to be mixed; but still experiencing only momentary relief, followed with returns of his complaints more and more severe, he was tempted to have recourse to the *infallible specifics of old women*, and to the *equally infallible nostrums of quacks*. By all these means united, he was reduced to such a pass, that, with a body quite exhausted, his feet began to swell, and he could no longer retain upon his stomach the simplest food, or even the most innocent cordial. He was then recommended to me by a lady, who had herself been cured by me of a most inveterate colic of the *bilious* kind. In *fourteen weeks*, having regularly administered to this gentleman the operations proper for his case, I had the satisfaction to find him **RADICALLY** cured of all his complaints, and in a state of **PERFECT HEALTH**.

CASE II.

A gentleman who had been afflicted *many years* with an inveterate *scorbutic* complaint, for which he had in vain taken loads of medicines, was at length seized with a *fixed pain in the lower part of the belly*. Every effort to move it proving ineffectual for *three years*, he then became afflicted also with sundry *flying pains*, which particularly affected him *about the loins*, and *under the ribs*, and which, for the most part, were attended with the discharge, both upward and downward, of a watery, yellow, and acrid humour, and with a suppression of urine. For these complaints he repeatedly, but ineffectually, underwent the operation of the lancet, and tried all sorts of cathartics, emetics, diuretics, diaphoretics, fomentations, and clysters. Accustomed as he had been to live, as it is called, *well*, he was next put on the *lowest diet*, and ordered to drink nothing but the *waters of Bath and Pyrmont*. Being still, nevertheless, unable to obtain either *ease* or *rest*, opium was prescribed for him; but *even opium*, administered in the largest quantities, had no effect but to render him more and more *stupid*, more and more *miserable*. Happening to hear of several extraordinary cases, in which I had proved successful, after every other medical expedient

had proved abortive he came from Bath, *where he languished in despair*, to me, where, through the blessing of God on my salutary operations, *he obtained a RADICAL CURE in ELEVEN WEEKS.*

CASE III.

A wealthy manufacturer in the county of Nottingham, had been for *fifteen years* subject to a most excruciating *windy colic*, insomuch that, at times, it appeared as if his navel would burst. Without cathartics, or clysters, he could seldom obtain a stool; nor could he at all make water, unless when assisted by a catheter. A stranger likewise to sleep, from *one to fifty* grains of opium were administered to him every twenty-four hours; and with the usual effect, that of *stupefying* him during the night, and rendering him yet more *alive* to his wonted torments during the day. In this state of distraction and misery he could not have survived much longer; and happy was it for him that he had for his surgeon, a worthy gentleman, who, knowing the utility of my inventions, had the disinterested integrity to recommend them. By his earnest advice, therefore, the gentleman put himself under my care, and in *ten weeks*, he obtained from me a *radical cure*. This gentleman dwelt with such rapture on their mildness and safety, as well as efficacy, that a lady

was induced to become my patient for a COMPLICATION of disorders, of which, perhaps, severe as it was the COLIC was not the least.

Now having treated fully on the nature and efficacy of the MEDICATED VAPOUR BATH, of *fumigation* and *friction*, adduced authorities sufficiently eminent, in support of their salutary tendency, and quoted cases in proof thereof, it merely remains to add the following short

OBSERVATIONS.

As the benefits derivable from the practice here treated on, entirely depend upon the judicious *preparation* and administration of the Vapour Bath, and its adaptation to the nature of the patients' peculiar case; it becomes imperiously necessary to guard the public against unskilful pretenders, who have no recommendation, or introduction to the world, but through their own presumption, and who are actuated solely by motives of avarice and profit, instead of being able to contribute to the health and happiness of their fellow beings; the latter has in fact been found to be entirely out of the question—as the author can prove from the most respectable and incontestible evidence, that much serious mischief has arisen to patients who have resorted to Baths unskilfully medicated and prepared. To those

who are unacquainted with the subject it may be useful information to learn, that the only *Medicated Vapour Bath* of any repute or consequence ever in this country was the one introduced about sixty years ago by a regular Physician, and by him conducted for nearly forty years, with astonishing success in almost every malady incident to the human body. To the great loss and misfortune however of the community at large, and more particularly of the afflicted part thereof, no successor appeared during a lapse of about twenty years, until the establishment in Downing-street; the valuable secret of properly *medicating*, and applying the baths, fumigation, and friction, having been imparted to the superintendant thereof, by a relative of the deceased inventor, whose name must be ever revered as the author of such signal benefit to mankind.

THE END.

APPENDIX.

CASE I.

JANE MASKELL, servant to John Cage, of Stangate, dairyman, applied to me in January, 1804, with the fore finger of her right hand in a state of mortification—she had had the advice of three different professional gentlemen of Lambeth, without effect—I gave her some of my medicine, by which she was perfectly cured in three weeks.

CASE II.

JOHN PARKER, of No. 49, Church-street, Lambeth, Surry, taylor, having accidentally fell into the river Thames, and from the situation he was then in, being forced to remain in his wet clothes upwards of two hours, in consequence of which, he totally lost the use of his limbs, so as to render him wholly unable to attend to his business for the support of his family.

In that situation he applied to an eminent gentleman of Lambeth, who attended him for about eighteen weeks; but finding no relief, the late Archbishop of Canterbury gave him a letter to the Westminster Hospital, where he remained nine weeks, when he was discharged as incurable.

On the 18th of August, 1805, he applied to me for relief. In the space of twelve days he was so far restored as to be enabled to return to his business, and to perform the most laborious part of it. He is now perfectly recovered, and able to follow his trade as well as before the accident. This will be seen from the following letter:—

August 12, 1804.

Honored Madam,

I RETURN you my most sincere thanks for the great benefit I have received from your Medicine in so short a time as a few weeks. I have laboured under great affliction near twelve months; have been under Dr. Young, near eighteen weeks, and finding no relief from his Medicines, procured a letter from his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, which admitted me into the Westminster Infirmary, being there under Dr. Meatay, for the space of nine weeks, and then lingering under the most excruciating pains.

The use of your Medicine has given me great ease, and enabled me to work at my trade, or I must positively have been a lost man for ever.

I remain your dutiful servant,

At command,

JOHN PARKER.

No. 49, Church-street, Lambeth.

CASE III.

Mrs. AYLIFFE, of Vauxhall-Walk, Surry, requested my advice and assistance, and gave me the following account of herself:—

“ I enjoyed a perfect state of health until I
 “ was married, and in the family way, ever since
 “ which I have been miserably afflicted with very
 “ bad eyes, a sore throat, and at the same time in
 “ such pain all over, as to render me unable to
 “ walk or sit. A professional gentleman of Lam-
 “ beth, has attended me for several months, but
 “ without success.”

Not wishing to have any thing to do with the case without first seeing the said gentleman, Mrs. A. went with me to him the same evening. I asked him what he really thought her complaint to be, he said he could not tell; that he had never during his many years practice, met with a similar case; he attended her several months, and de-

livered her of a very fine child, which he thought would tend to eradicate the complaint, but he found it had increased considerably---he first imagined it must proceed from the husband, but on examination, found to his astonishment it did not. The child, he said, lived but one month, and that in a most melancholy situation.---the matter might be taken out of its eyes by spoonsful; it seemed to him to be one corrupt mass---he had done all he could for her (Mrs. A.) and advised her to become an out patient of some Hospital.

From the conversation I had with the said gentleman, I thought I understood her complaint, and undertook the cure. In five weeks, from taking my prescription her sight was restored, and she soon regained a state of perfect health which happily continues.

CASE IV.

Mr. THOMAS MATHEWS, gardener to the late Archbishop of Canterbury, was afflicted with Deafness, and perfectly restored to his hearing, by using the Baths, &c.

“ I, Thomas Mathews, gardener, Lambeth-Palace, was cured of Deafness by Mrs. Clermont.”

CASE V.

Mrs. MEYERS, of Clipston-street, Oxford-street, applied to me on the 12th August, 1804, severely afflicted with an Ulcerated Sore Throat, lumps in her side, and in a deep Consumption: she had been in this situation two years,—had been under an eminent gentleman of Oxford-street, and during the time he attended her, she was twice salivated, and had taken nine dozen of mercurial pills.

In the course of two weeks under my care, she was enabled to walk fourteen miles in one day, and in six weeks afterwards was perfectly restored to health.

CASE VI.

Mrs. CHARLOTTE GUYON, wife of Claudius Philip Guyon, Cornad, Sudbury, in the county of Suffolk, was afflicted for two years with an enlarged knee and 'contracted joint—she had been attended by all the professional gentlemen of that part of the country, and several of the first respectability in town—she was totally unable to walk for two years.

On the 11th of January, 1805, she applied to me in that helpless state, and resided with me one month—in the course of the first week, by the use

of my prescription, she was able to move her leg, and found great strength in it, so that she could stand. She observed to her friends, "It is with gratitude I find a limb restored, which has been lost to me two years"—in a fortnight after she walked in one hour a distance of three miles, and in the course of the month her swelled knee decreased more than five inches. Being then able to walk without assistance, she returned home to her family and friends.

This is to Certify that I have inquired personally respecting the Cases of Elizabeth Ayliffe, Thomas Maihews and others, from whom I have received acknowledgments of effectual relief having been given them by Mrs. Clermont.

Lambeth Marsh, }
July 10, 1805. }

JOHN FIELD.

CASE VII.

On the 14th July, 1805, Mr. DAY, of Camberwell-Grove, requested me to attend his son, a child about four years old, who was then severely afflicted with the Scrofula, Dropsy, Consumption, and Worms. The father said he had been attended for several months, by a respectable Apothecary at Camberwell, but finding the child no better, thought it necessary to have the advice of

a physician; who visited and prescribed for him for some time without effect, and declared he could never recover.

I examined him and found he was in a most dreadful state of mortification, from head to foot; he was full of deep pitted holes, filled with matter, and his purse swelled as big as an ostrich's egg, and full of small holes, from which the corruption issued—his right leg was eat into the bone, and covered with proud flesh—an offensive smell came from him which seemed to fill the whole house.

I stopped the mortification, and restored to him his appetite and sleep, so much so, that on the 18th of the same month, he eat hearty of a duck, and, from the mistaken indulgence of his parents, drank almost a pint of porter, which caused the mortification to return, and the offensive smell as before.

On that day his parents, supposing him past recovery, wished to have the opinion of Doctor Lettsom, but feared he would not attend, as a female had been called in before him. Knowing his benevolent character, though I had not the pleasure of being personally acquainted with him, I undertook to see him myself, and state the child's situation to him, and he, with great condescension, visited the child that evening.

The Doctor expressed himself as follows:—

“this child is in a dreadful way indeed; he is in a state of mortification; I will prescribe for him, and if he is alive on Tuesday, which I much doubt, I will call and see him.”

On the 23rd, he came and Mr. Aveline with him; Dr. Lettsom seemed much pleased to find the child apparently so much better, and prescribed for him a second time, both of which prescriptions I had made up at E. Hallam's, Apothecary at Newington.

On the 24th, Dr. Lettsom came with Dr. Jenner. “I have brought you here,” said Dr. Lettsom, “to see this child; it is one of the most extraordinary cases I ever met with;” on taking down the bed-clothes he found the child was much worse, his purse being very much enlarged—Dr. Jenner said he never saw a child so scrofulous; the matter flowed copiously.

I acquainted them of the manner in which I had treated the child; they said they approved of my simple method, that nothing could be done better than to continue it—I did not leave him for four days and nights.

On the 27th, as Dr. Lettsom was passing by, Mr. Day informed him his son was better. He exclaimed, “what! is he yet alive? Wonderful indeed.”

On the 29th, the water burst through his purse, which appeared to be a mass of corrup-

tion—from that time he continued to recover very fast; he slept well, and had a good appetite; and by the 12th of August, was perfectly cured of the Dropsy, and the Scrofula, not leaving a sore about him. Having then only the Consumption to combat, that, with the assistance of the Supreme, I was certain I could have completely cured, but the father could not be persuaded that it was possible to cure any one of a Consumption, and would not suffer his son to have any more medicine.

He therefore paid me ten pounds for the service I had done—I used every argument in my power for a continuance, but in vain, having no doubt of bringing the case to a happy termination, restoring to the father a son, and to society, perhaps, a valuable member; but was obliged, with very great reluctance, to withdraw—he lived two months afterwards.

Mr. Sabb, junr. of Camberwell, was present during the above conversation.

CASE VIII.

WILLIAM RIDER, coachman to Mr. Herbert, Denmark-Hill, Camberwell, came to me the 1st of August, 1805, with his arm in a sling, and said he was almost distracted with tormenting

pains—that he had no sleep for three weeks—he had been attended by professional gentlemen of Camberwell, who paid him great attention, but the pain seemed if possible to increase. On their last visit, they pierced his hands and arms in six or seven places with a lancet, but could not make it bleed; they then ordered him to put it into hot water till the blood came.

They called again in the afternoon, and finding it did not bleed, were much surprised, and advised him to go to the Hospital, for he had got Dropsy in his arms.

This poor man begged me to do something for him—he said he would be for ever thankful as he had a family, and was obliged to have a man at eighteen shillings per week, in his place. I told him not to be uneasy, as I differed very much in opinion from the two learned gentlemen, being convinced it was inflammation, and not water, that caused the pain.

I gave him some of my preparation, and on the next day he came to me and said he had slept well all night, and felt as if he were in heaven, being quite free from pain—in a fortnight after, he was perfectly restored to the full use of his hands and arms.

*William Rider, No. 3, Cold-Harbour-Lane;
and Peter Coran, 24, New North-street, Red-
Lion-Square, witnessed this cure.*

IX.

Mr. PLAISTED, of New Alley, Borough, Southwark, was afflicted with bad eyes for three months, and could not see. He then applied at the Friendly Institution for assistance, and was restored to perfect sight in three weeks.

THOMAS PLAISTED.

Witness, A. STERRY, 156, Borough.

CASE X.

ELIZABETH PAYTON, of Bull-head Court, Newington Causeway, Surry, was for upwards of two years afflicted with a Cancer in her breast. She was under an eminent Surgeon, of Newington, for some time, when he kindly recommended her to the care of the head Surgeon of St Thomas's Hospital. Not receiving any benefit, she applied to a celebrated Surgeon, near London Bridge; and after to Mr. Brandon, of Deptford, Kent, and of Great-Queen-street, Westminster. From him she went to a respectable Surgeon of Woolwich, in the same county, who intended to burn her Cancer out, but considered the operation would be too excruciating for her reduced state of health to bear. She next applied to Mr. De-

lamotte, of Church-street, Spitalfields, but finding no relief, and being in a state of mortification, she applied to Mr. Mann, liquor merchant, Newington-Causeway, one of the overseers of Newington parish, for relief, on the 8th of November, 1805, who referred her to me.

She was, at that time, in a deplorable state of mortification, and smelt so exceedingly offensive, that I had great doubt of being able to effect a cure; the Cancer having eat into her side and under her arms, so that her ribs might be seen.

I gave her some of my preparation, which happily stopped the mortification, and she is now completely recovered.

CASE XI.

The Child of TOBIAS LOVE, No. 5, Church Row, Aldgate, was afflicted with bad eyes from its birth; being fourteen months old when application was made to the Friendly Institution. After a fortnight's treatment he was cured; and continues well till this time.

Nov. 12, 1806.

T. LOVE.

CASE XII.

The daughter of a respectable merchant at Hull, in Yorkshire, was totally deprived of the

sight of her left eye for some months. She had received the advice of several eminent surgeons, without effect; Mr. Ware, of Bridge-street, Blackfriars, informed her that the Chrystaline Humour was hurt, and that her eye would be an useless member. On the 16th of Jan. 1806, she applied at the Friendly Institution, and was restored to her perfect sight in the course of two months.

CASE XIII.

MARY TYDMAN PUCKLE, of No. 13, Cleaver-street, Princes-street, Kennington, was twelve months dreadfully afflicted with Cataract and Ophthalmia in the eyes—applied to Mr. Ware, of New Bridge-street, Blackfriars—was under his care four months, but receiving no benefit applied to the Friendly Institution, and was restored to her perfect sight in a fortnight.

The above Case I know to be true, and I think this Institution worthy the attention of the public.

DANIEL DAVIES, *Kennington Cross.*
March 30, 1807.

CASE XIV.

The following Case was written by the young woman herself, who desired it to be made public.

“ AN extraordinary Case performed in six
 “ weeks by the benevolent hand of Mrs. Clermont,
 “ proprietor of the above institution. I was led
 “ totally blind to the Sunderland Dispensary,
 “ where I remained for nine months, under the
 “ care of the Surgeon and eight gentlemen
 “ of the faculty; and several of the Physicians
 “ hearing of my Case, visited me during that
 “ time, all of whom paid the most kind attention
 “ to my complaint, but finding it resisted all their
 “ efforts, they announced me incurable, saying
 “ it was the evil that affected my eyes, and there
 “ was no cure for me. In this melancholy situa-
 “ tion I was brought up to London, and hearing
 “ of the surprising cures that were performed at
 “ this Institution, I procured a Letter from that
 “ benign Lady, Mrs. Elliot, of Bartholomew
 “ Close, a subscriber to this noble Charity,
 “ which admitted me a Patient. My eyes were
 “ covered with a thick skin; ran much scalding
 “ water, which took the skin off my cheeks; and
 “ matter issued out of the corners; had a most
 “ dreadful and constant head-ach, and a large
 “ bunch under my jaw, and one under my chin,
 “ both of which hung upon my neck for twenty
 “ years; through Divine mercy these are removed;
 “ I am restored to my perfect sight and health,
 “ and no return these four months since. Through

“gratitude to the Almighty God, I make this
 “public for the benefit of my fellow creatures.

ISABELLA GRAHAM,”

*Residing Housekeeper, at Mr. Tenant's, Linen Draper,
 196, Tooley Street, Southwark.”*

APRIL 1808.

CASE XV.

A gentleman of great respectability, who may be referred to, was afflicted for more than eighteen months with a hip complaint. He had consulted the most eminent London Surgeons, implicitly followed their directions, and resided for a considerable period by the sea, but without receiving any relief. On the contrary, the disease continued to increase, the joint became considerably enlarged, and was so exceedingly stiff that it had scarcely any motion in it. He was unable to walk without crutches, and (with their assistance) he suffered much pain, whenever he moved. Under these circumstances he applied to the proprietor of the Turkish Vapour Baths in Downing-street, and after using the Baths and the other remedies there prescribed for the space of three months, he was so far recovered as to be able to walk with the assistance of a stick only: the pain was considerably decreased, the joint reduced to its natural size, and the stiffness nearly removed. He is now in perfect health.

CASE XVI.

A gentleman of the first respectability, in consequence of severe indisposition, went through a course of mercury twelve times within the comparatively short space of eight years. He was confined to his chamber at least three months each time, so that of the eight years he may thus be said to have consumed more than three. The result of all this was a complaint left on him, which was called by the faculty, the Mercurial Disease. From head to foot he was full of glandular tumours—he had holes in his neck and legs, and his gums were eaten away, so that the roots of his teeth might be seen. He had recourse to the advice of Surgeon Pearson, Abernethy, A. Cooper, and Cline, and indeed to that of every surgeon of eminence in London; but through the long period of his sufferings, he obtained little or no relief. Recommended to a trial of the Baths in Downing-street, these and the other means there used, in seven weeks, restored him to health. The tumours were healed; the holes in his neck and legs so cured as not even to leave a scar behind; and his gums, which might be said to have been destroyed, were speedily replaced, to the joy and astonishment of all who had known him.

CASE XVII.

From Captain M^cArthur to the Proprietor of the Turkish Vapour Bath.

“ Called upon from motives of humanity, I am desirous that no longer time should be lost in making my case known to the afflicted. I was severely wounded by a cannon ball which struck the right ancle and fractured the bone of my leg. It was not well set; and left the ancle joint nearly ankylosed, which deprived me of the total use of my limb; it was quite decayed, and I was recommended by the Medical Board to the Vapour or Steam Bath. I am happy to say, that from using your Bath, and going through your usual process for four weeks, it has gained strength and flesh. I can walk a considerable distance without using crutches and shall be happy to answer any personal enquiries.”

It may not be improper to add that this person said he was advised by the Medical Board to have his leg amputated, as a wooden leg might be of use to him, but his own could never. He is now perfectly restored.

CASE XVIII.

In the month of July 1813, JOHN PIDDOCK, was suddenly seized with violent pains, resembling

in some respects the cramp. The bones of his back began to grow out, and his deformity rapidly increasing, recourse was had to the advice of the most eminent medical and surgical practitioners. Messrs. Thomas, Gibbs, and Chevalier, were consulted, as were other members of the faculty of equal note. One of these gentlemen thought the back had been put out by a fall; the others were of opinion the deformity, and accompanying illness proceeded from a disease of the bones. Their prescriptions failed to give the child relief. The deformity continued to increase, and the patient became so reduced, that when seven years of age, he had not strength to walk, and his mother was obliged to carry him in her arms like an infant. He felt great difficulty in breathing from the narrowness of his chest, and this, accompanied by irritation of the nerves, hectic fever and restlessness, made his situation the most distressing that can be imagined; and brought him to the brink of the grave. Constantly experiencing the most excruciating torture, his screams were dreadful and his nights were sleepless. Nothing afforded him the least relief but opium. This threw him into a forced slumber, during which his agonizing shrieks but too plainly proved he could take little repose, and even this momentary respite from misery was at last denied him; and the opium,

from being repeatedly used, ceased to have any effect, and composed him to sleep no more. The superior part of the deformed spine was completely inverted. The four spinous, or posterior processes of the upper joints, which naturally incline downwards, were in this case turned upwards; so that the whole of the cervical vertebræ, or bones forming the neck were sunk out of sight, and were not even perceptible to the touch, when the head was in an erect position. The neck from its curvation, was incapable of supporting the head, of which in consequence the hinder part rested on the shoulders which were much raised as was the spinous process of the fixed joint of the back. In this afflicted state he remained all the winter. The return of summer, produced some improvement in his health, and the faculty were of opinion that he would be likely to gain strength, though in other respects they considered his case was hopeless. On Tuesday, July 16th, 1814, he was brought to the Baths in Downing-street. After trying the Vapour Bath, and using the other means recommended at this institution, a marked improvement was observable, and in three days his distressed mother had the happiness to perceive a material change for the better. He continued to make rapid progress towards recovery; and by perseverance in the course prescribed by the proprietor

of the Baths, the deformity above described, has already been almost wholly removed.

Witness, THOMAS COGGER,
SEP. 20, 1814. *Haymarket.*

NOTE.—It may be necessary here to remark, that all defects of the spine and limbs are cured, without the use of instruments, at the Downing Street Institution.

CASE XIX.

The son of a gentleman of the first respectability, to whom immediate reference will be given, was afflicted with an ankylosed hip; he had a white swelling coming on his knee; his ancle and instep were quite stiff and swelled, so that he was unable to walk, and could not move at all without the greatest difficulty. It was on the 21st of June in the present year, that he was brought to the Downing-street Baths, and now, at the expiration of three months, he can walk without crutches, mount a horse, and in a word, has the full use of his leg. This knee, ancle, and instep, are no longer in any respect diseased, the ankylosis is removed, and the spine of the back, which was much affected, is completely recovered.

THE END.

